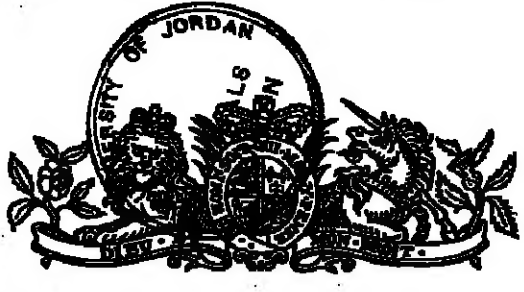


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# THE TIMES



No 63,955

SATURDAY MARCH 2 1991

40p

## Defeated troops mown down as they flee; US tables ceasefire resolution at UN



Debris of a defeated army: the scorched remains of military and civilian vehicles litter the road from Kuwait city to Basra. They were caught by bombing attacks as the Iraqis retreated

## Saddam may head for Algerian exile

By MICHAEL BRYNIN IN LONDON AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein was reported yesterday to have decided to step down and seek political asylum in Algeria. President Benjedid and Algerian officials denied that negotiations were taking place.

The French newspaper *Le Monde* reported from Algeria that Saddam was trying to cling to power, but was preparing to go into exile in another Arab country. His family and supporters, fearing for their lives if he were to go, were said to have threatened to kill him if he tried to flee.

*Le Monde* said that Saddam had approached Algeria on Wednesday evening, some hours before the ceasefire. Algeria was said to have agreed to the request for asylum a few hours later, provided Saddam's successors agreed and the UN coalition

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did not try to hunt him down for war crimes. Meanwhile, the *Washington Times* said that Bush administration officials had received intelligence that Saddam might try to flee to the Soviet Union or Mauritania. Saddam's wife and children were reported to have escaped to Mauritania in the early days of the war.

Saddam has not been seen for several days and the allies have repeatedly made clear that they would welcome his downfall. James Baker, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday that he knew nothing of the *Le Monde* report, but added: "I don't think many tears would be shed if Saddam Hussein would leave power in Iraq."

Douglas Hurd last night echoed John Major's Commons remarks that Iraq would be an international liability as long as Saddam remained. Mr Hurd told *Backstage* that Iraq could not expect to be readmitted to the community of nations while it had a "delinquent regime trying to conceal in futile rhetoric the disaster to which every returning Iraqi soldier can bear witness."

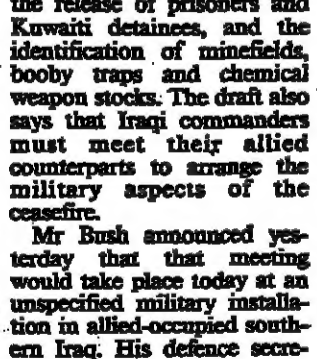
Mr Bush announced yesterday that that meeting would take place today at an unspecified military installation in allied-occupied southern Iraq. His defence secretary, Richard Cheney, said the top priority of the talks would be the return of the prisoners, and gave a warning that the bombing campaign could be resumed "at a moment's notice" if the Iraqis did not comply fully.

Mr Bush took an equally hard line on Iraq's future. He pledged that "not one dime" of American taxpayers' money would be spent on its reconstruction, and he renewed his call for the Iraqi people to topple Saddam. At a meeting with the Saudi ambassador to Washington, he said: "Let's hope that they realise that the best way, or the best peaceful relationship, is to go on and take matters in their own hands and make a new lease on life."

The *Le Monde* report suggested that such a move was already under way. Senior Iraqi officials had agreed that Saddam had to leave and many of them were working to build a transitional government. Radio Baghdad continued to broadcast peace to its leader, apparently attempting to bolster his public image. One song played said: "Sir, don't worry, with you Iraq is safe. Only God knows how much we love you, O Saddam."

Another said: "You will stay dear with our precious flag in your hands."

The allies want Saddam to leave power as soon as possible, but have insisted that the Iraqis must decide what to do with him. Britain believes that the best solution would be exile in disgrace so that he could slowly be forgotten, as happened with Kif Amin after he was thrown out of power in Uganda. That would prevent any cult of him as a martyr being fostered.



Saddam: still trying to cling to power

There are several precedents for Arab leaders seeking refuge in other Arab countries. General Gaafar Nimeiri, the former Sudanese leader, sought asylum in Egypt after he was ousted. Iraq gave refuge to several Syrian politicians as well as radical Palestinians who were forced to leave other countries.



Red Adair: called in to fight raging oil fires

## Kuwait's 950 oil wells are on fire

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

ALL Kuwait's 950 producing wells have been set on fire or damaged by Iraqi troops and allied bombing. It was claimed yesterday as Kuwaiti resistance fighters gave up free oil and Red Adair was called in to tackle the blazes.

The gloomy assessment, issued by Kuwait Oil Company officials amid the smoke and fire of the damaged Al-Jahra oil complex, is likely to lead to further delays in restoring Kuwaiti oil output. Last night the KOC officials declined to speculate how long it would take to restore production.

"Our provisional assessment is that they have damaged every producing well," Musab al-Yaseen, a company executive, said. "Our feeling from checks that our personnel have done so far is that all the wells have been exploded."

He said the evidence was that Iraqi forces had placed explosives on all of Kuwait's wellheads, oil-gathering centres and pumps immediately after the invasion on August 2. Detonators and fuses had not been added until later and large-scale destruction of the wells began last week.

"This could have been prevented," Mr al-Yaseen said. "It is a great shame the allies could not have prevented our wells from being exploded. I cried. The allies had a great opportunity to prevent this. The oil wells were not equipped with detonators for

Continued on page 24, col 1

## Carnage on the Basra road

By GORDON AINS AND COLIN WILLS IN POOLED DISPATCH FROM THE 1st BRITISH ARMoured DIVISION NEAR KUWAIT CITY

THE destruction and human cost of the war was seen yesterday at its most horrific on the main route from Kuwait to Iraq. Allied cluster bombing had reduced the road to a grim slaughterhouse.

The road, a few miles north of Kuwait City, was taken by thousands of terrified Iraqi troops fleeing north to their city of Basra from advancing allied armies. But, fresh from looting and pillaging Kuwait city, they drove straight into the guns of American tanks astride the main road - and became targets for allied aircraft.

The result was carnage, with thousands of vehicles solidly blocking the two wide highways for three miles. Bodies of Iraqi soldiers, in their olive green uniforms, lay all over the place, some burnt to a cinder. Soviet-built T55 and more modern T72 tanks were burnt out - with their crews incinerated.

A Queen's Royal Irish Hussars officer on the scene said simply: "I find it impossible to think of words to describe this. I arrived with an advance party of the Desert Rats to find unbelievable scenes of carnage. Dead, mutilated and charred bodies were everywhere."

The Iraqis plundered what they could from the defenceless city and set off in anything that had wheels. In the wreckage, there was everything from military equipment to army ambulances, loaded with hundreds of Kalashnikov automatic rifles, to a Kuwaiti police patrol car with blue flashing lights on top. There, too, were brand new Mercedes, Range Rovers and luxury American limousines once owned by wealthy Kuwaitis.

The evidence of looting was in almost every vehicle. A new roller-skate stand in the road, a child's black shoe, new televisions and video recorders, brass ornaments and antiques, ladies clothing and countless bottles of perfume, a box of fruit salad dishes and even a spin drier lying amid ammunition in a land cruiser.

When the US tanks attacked, with air support, the battle lasted five hours. It was, said US Major Rob Williams, *Apocalypse Now*. "They were

desperate and they wanted out - to Iraq," he said. "They fought harder than we have seen before."

"There were artillery pieces and tanks exploding and a huge pall of smoke from burning fuel that made the daytime look like night."

Beside a large new police station along the route, which had to be stormed room by room by US infantry, there were 40 bundles lying in the hot sun. Several were covered, thankfully, in rags and rugs. Others were burnt to a cinder.

From the wreckage, American soldiers carried out an Iraqi soldier on a stretcher. He had been found in the back of a van with his left foot blown off - and was too scared for two days to cry for help.

Watching this depressing scene were two Kuwaitis who had driven up from their homes in Kuwait City. Said one: "I feel very happy when I see this... when I see Iraqi people are killed. I am pleased to see this death and destruction because they did more than this to us."

### TODAY

#### I think I am abolished

Joe Joseph on the gloom of the unknown intellectual, French version, a breed fast retreating from existentialism to non-existence  
SATURDAY REVIEW

#### Hard work, naturally



The bare-faced fashion look can be difficult to achieve. Dinah Hall on the ultimate artifice  
SATURDAY REVIEW

#### The making of a herb garden

Francesca Greenwood completes her guide to fine gardening with some hints from an outstanding herb garden. Plus making beautiful borders  
SATURDAY REVIEW

#### How to win the National

Two readers get the chance to win a day out, with a partner, at the Grand National on April 2  
PAGE 38

#### The tycoon observed

Carol Leonard observes an air of detached mystery about Lord S. ring of P & O, who prefers to be the observer  
PAGE 27

#### Rebirth of an hotel

After 50 years, London's Langham reopens as an hotel on Monday under the Hilton flag. Callum Murray looks over glory restored and glory lost  
PAGE 17

### Lowest poll tax reduced

Wandsworth council in south London reduced the lowest poll tax in England by a further £12. At £136 a head, the community charge in Wandsworth will be £38 below the government's target and £40 less than the Westminster figure. Page 24

### Rival acquitted

Jane Selveson, who was accused of murdering Diana Maw with a crossbow two years ago, was yesterday acquitted of burglary a yacht belonging to the man for whom the two women had been rivals in love. Page 3

### Church blow

A fall in the number of church-goers is disclosed in a report to be published next week. Only one in ten adults and one in seven children were church-goers in 1989. Page 5

### Thai atrocities

The military leaders who seized power in Thailand a week ago have taken summary powers to execute without trial anybody suspected of serious crimes. Page 11

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## Bitter Iraqi POWs refuse to be sent home

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

HARD evidence appeared yesterday that the regime of President Saddam Hussein will receive its first damning internal indictment when many of the 175,000 Iraqi prisoners of war being held in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait refuse to return home until he is toppled from power.

Interviews with 175 Iraqi POWs, including nine officers, showed that to a man, they will be demanding not to be sent home under the present regime. Few had qualms about giving names to support what amounted to a plea for political asylum.

Western military sources confirmed similar feelings among POWs in Saudi Arabia, leading to a humanitarian problem with the POWs' demands for refugee status or something similar

creating a situation almost unprecedented in a post-war situation.

The POWs were interviewed through self-appointed spokesmen in six fetid cell rooms in the Surra police station - one of a number where POWs are being held in Kuwait. Many who spoke bitterly and at length about the policies of Saddam claimed that the Iraqi army favoured a transfer of power to Ibrahim al-Jawad, a former Iraqi defence minister now in exile in Saudi Arabia.

The passion with which they spoke indicated that they were telling the truth rather than trying to impress their Kuwaiti captors. Many believed that they would be tortured or killed by Baathist agents if they returned.

"What they say about Saddam seems to come from their hearts", said Colonel Salam Muhammad, a Ku-

waiti who stood by in the cramped cell rooms with their overpowering stench of urine, as the interviews were conducted. "This could be a big problem for the United Nations."

Many soldiers who gave themselves up in Kuwait City said they believed anti-Saddam feeling was escalating rapidly inside Iraq and would be further encouraged by their own mass refusal to return. "Daoud is very different from Saddam. He is not a man obsessed with hatred and killing", said one soldier from Basra. Many of the 40 sitting bare-footed in the small room shouted or gestured approval for the suggestion.

The POWs said they were afraid to return because of fear of retribution. Even those who do go back are likely only to increase the groundswell of discontent against those who ordered

the war. "I have three daughters, one of whom is only 40-days old and I have not seen her but I will not go back until Saddam is finished", said Captain Muhammad Fared, aged 30. "The Western governments have started to pave the way for freedom in Iraq by fighting this war. We now want them to finish it."

As prisoner after prisoner spoke, interrupting each other in order to vent their anger at the hopeless military situation in which they had been placed, it was possible to detect what emotional and political undercurrents must now be swirling in Iraq. "I refuse to go back because I will not accept orders from that bloody man anymore", said Lieutenant Abdul Aziz, who refused to retreat and gave himself up with the other officers.

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# Trading officers to seek scientific advice on 'IQ pills'

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

TRADING standards officers are seeking expert scientific advice on claims that a new brand of vitamin pills can improve children's intelligence.

The officers have successfully prosecuted one company and are bringing an action against another that has used IQ references in their packaging or advertising.

The officers are looking at Healthcrafts Vitachieve multi-vitamin and mineral tablets, launched earlier this week to coincide with the publication of a study of their effects on American school children.

The study was funded by the Dietary Research Foundation, an independent British charity which is to receive 5 per cent of the proceeds from the sales of the product. The tablets are being marketed by Booker Nutritional Products, of Weybridge, Surrey, which provided them for the study.

Advertisements for the pills say: "Recent US tests proved that Healthcrafts Vitachieve increased the average IQ score of children in a trial. Only Vitachieve carries the official seal of the Dietary Research Foundation, an independent body of scientific experts who formulated Vitachieve especially for the test. Any similar products on sale were not tested and are not endorsed by the Dietary Research Foundation."

The findings, published in a special issue of a little-known

Journal edited by one of the researchers involved, were criticised by the Medical Research Council. The council expressed "very great doubts" about the findings.

Yesterday David Roberts, chief inspector of Shropshire trading standards department, said: "We are taking an interest in this case and will be seeking scientific advice before deciding whether to take any further action. Our general view is that before a product of this type is launched with the support of scientific evidence, that evidence should be widely available for independent scrutiny."

In January, Mr Roberts and colleagues prosecuted Seven Seas, a company based in Hull, over labelling which claimed its Boost IQ multi-vitamin tablets contained "22 nutrients for healthy bright kids".

The company, which faced three charges under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and Food Labelling Regulations 1984, was fined £2,300 and ordered to pay £400 costs.

In a second case brought by Mr Roberts's department, Larkhall Laboratories of London are alleged to have contravened the act with its descriptions of its multi-vitamin product, Tandem IQ. The case is expected to be heard by Shropshire magistrates this month. Promotional material for the Healthcrafts

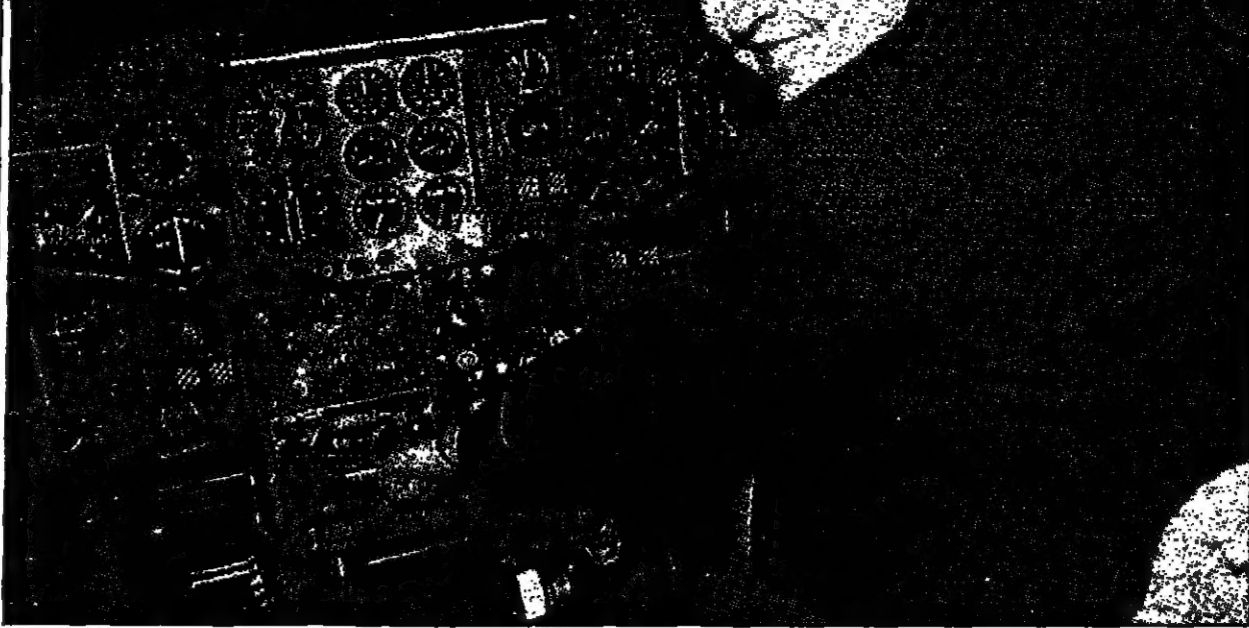
Vitachieve pills says: "At last... an end to the debate surrounding the possibility of a link between nutritional status and intellectual performance among children."

"Following an extensive study into the relationship between intellectual performance and vitamin and mineral levels conducted by the Dietary Research Foundation, Booker Nutritional Products is launching Healthcrafts Vitachieve, the exact formulation that produced a significant improvement in the average IQ score of the group taking it as part of the DRF's US research programme."

The study's findings were published simultaneously with the launch of the pills at a news conference in London on Wednesday. The results are contained in *Personality and Individual Differences*, a journal edited by Professor Hans Eysenck, an eminent psychologist.

California schoolchildren were given the pills daily for 13 weeks and underwent IQ tests before and after receiving them. The second tests showed they had an average gain of four IQ points.

In the journal, Professor Eysenck says: "We do not know how long the effects of such short-term administration as we have used may last. It seems likely that within a few months the effects will be reduced very much, possibly to nil."



High-flier: Anne-Marie Dave, who was yesterday presented with her wings to become the RAF's first female navigator, checks her cockpit controls. Anne-Marie, aged 22, received her Flying Officer's wings at RAF Farnborough, South Yorkshire, after an 18-month course at flying training school. Her parents and her two brothers travelled from the family home in Horwath, Essex, for the presentation. Anne-Marie joined the RAF in 1986 because she thought there were good job opportunities for women. "I got a bit of rib-tickling from the men at first, but once they realised that I could do the job as well as them, they learnt to accept me very quickly," she said. Anne-Marie, who received her award from Air Chief Marshal Sir Brendan Jackson, is now posted to Hercules aircraft at RAF Lyneham, in Wiltshire. "My boyfriend is very proud of me now I'm qualified," she said. "I'm just delighted to be a navigator and I have an ambition to be a top gun pilot at this stage. I think it's a job women can do just as well as men."

## Poll tax: levels set for coming year

The following are the latest figures available on new poll tax levels set by councils in England and Wales.

Council	Party	Current	New	Council	Party	Current	New
<b>London boroughs</b>							
Barking	Lab	290	310	Gloucester	Lab	358	407
Barnet	Con	338	357	Great Yarmouth	Lab	325	359
Brent	NOC	470	470	Harrogate	SLD	380	386
Bromley	Con	283	330	Hartlepool	Lab	385	437
Bury	Con	340	440	Haverhill	Con	380	380
Croydon	Con	287	320	Hemel Hempstead	SLD	289	351
Ealing	Con	435	395	Hertsmere	Con	413	386
Enfield	Con	329	388	Hillingdon	Con	257	338
Hackney	Lab	429	482	Huntingdon	Con	317	358
Hammersmith	Lab	325	387	Ipswich	Lab	440	464
Harrow	Con	322	380	King's Lynn	Con	357	412
Havering	Lab	350	398	Lancaster	NOC	385	419
Hillingdon	Con	290	370	Leeds	Con	351	385
Hounslow	Lab	396	425	Luton	Con	402	389
Islington	Lab	488	518	Malden	Con	339	345
Kingston	NOC	344	379	Medway	Con	342	335
Merton	Con	409	454	Mid Beds	Con	354	405
Redbridge	Con	290	395	Mid Devon	Ind	355	364
Richmond	SLD	395	419	Mid Suffolk	Con	324	370
Tower Hamlets	SLD	297	287	Mid Sussex	Con	317	345
Westminster	Con	195	175	Mole Valley	NOC	387	384
Wandsworth	Con	148	158	New Forest	Con	317	358
<b>Metropolitan districts</b>							
Birmingham	Lab	408	408	Northampton	Con	349	386
Bradford	Lab	278	363	Northavon	Con	385	410
Bury	Lab	373	435	North Devon	Con	387	407
Coventry	Lab	364	434	North Dorset	Ind	285	339
Manchester	Lab	425	431	North Hants	Con	387	387
Newcastle	Lab	380	455	North Norfolk	Con	294	324
Oldham	Lab	365	405	North Warks	Lab	385	455
Rotherham	Lab	345	389	Nottingham	Con	380	448
Salford	Lab	386	440	Pendle	SLD	289	358
Sandwell	Lab	423	459	Peterborough	Lab	312	362
Southall	Con	388	392	Portsmouth	Con	380	406
Stockport	SLD	389	454	Plymouth	Con	359	380
Sunderland	Lab	310	355	Rochester	Con	308	372
Telford	Lab	425	475	Rother	Con	352	372
Wigan	Lab	347	407	Rushmore	Con	328	359
Wolverhampton	Lab	418	415	Rushmoor	Con	325	370
<b>Shire districts</b>							
Aylesbury Vale	SLD	348	405	St Albans	Con	384	380
Babergh	Con	347	390	St Edmunds	Con	317	370
Barnet	Con	330	365	Selby	Con	286	345
Barnstaple	Lab	328	416	Shrewsbury	Lab	324	386
Basingstoke	Con	319	325	South Beds	Con	401	405
Berkshire	NOC	321	358	South Bucks	Con	368	381
Beverley	Con	373	426	South Cambs	Ind	328	344
Boothferry	Con	290	345	Southend	Con	378	348
Bournemouth	Con	320	380	South Lakeland	Con	345	413
Braintree	Lab	343	352	South Somerset	SLD	362	411
Breckford	Con	304	374	South Wight	Ind	370	377
Bridgford	Ind	307	350	Spelthorne	Con	388	387
Brigholm	Lab	372	395	Stockton	Lab	428	452
Brigholm	Lab	372	395	Stratford	Con	374	414
Broadland	Con	319	388	Stroud	NOC	372	448
Broxbourne	Con	361	380	Suffolk Coast	Con	389	370
Cambridge	Lab	448	489	Tandridge	SLD	371	413
Cardon	Lab	345	405	Taunton Deane	Con	349	380
Carlisle	Lab	365	438	Teignbridge	Con	384	405
Carrick	SLD	323	380	Tewkesbury	Con	355	385
Castle Morpeth	NOC	432	444	Three Rivers	Con	419	415
Castle Point	Con	371	392	Torbay	SLD	395	390
Charnwood	Con	372	397	Torridge	Ind	281	348
Charnwood	SLD	382	393	Uxbridge	Con	345	339
Chesham	NOC	364	415	Wansbeck	Lab	348	395
Chesham	Con	365	405	Warrackley	Con	381	418
Chilham	Con	390	393	Warwick	Con	388	408
Colchester	SLD	332	348	Warrington	Lab	423	454
Copeland	Lab	328	368	Waverley	Lab	348	382
Crawley	Con	345	375	Waverley	Con	405	388
Decatur	Con	368	385	West Dorset	NOC	313	369
Darlington	Con	358	415	West Oxon	Ind	412	380
Derbyshire	Con	358	415	West Somerset	Ind	334	380
Dover	Con	295	329	White Horse	Con	403	405
Eastbourne	NOC	385	414	Windsor	Con	448	427
East Cambs	Ind	368	355	Woodspire	Con	385	444
East Herts	Con	370	380	Wokingham	Con	388	335
Eden	Ind	225	355	Wycombe	Con	400	408
Elmbridge	Con	448	470	<b>Welsh districts</b>			
Epsom	SLD	452	458	Cardiff	Lab	258	277
Exeter	Lab	344	379	Newport	Lab	238	275
Farnham	Con	380	385	Swansea	Lab	223	255
Forde	Con	291	372	Swansea	Lab	218	252
Forest Heath	Con	383	387	Swansea	Lab	254	275
Fylde	Con	387	407	<b>Wandsworth sets lowest rate, page 24</b>			

Key: Con-Conservative; Lab-Labour; NOC-No Overall Control; Ind-Independent; SLD-Socialist Labour Party; Con-Conservative; Lab-Labour; NOC-No Overall Control; Ind-Independent; SLD-Socialist Labour Party; Con-Conservative; Lab-Labour; NOC-No Overall Control; Ind-Independent; SLD-Socialist Labour Party.

## Patten puts Conservatives on alert for an early poll

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS Patten, the Conservative party chairman, will today put his troops on alert for a possible early general election.

Mr Patten's rallying cry to some 600 Tory councillors gathered in London will be directed ostensibly at whipping up enthusiasm for the district council elections on May 2. However, with the outcome of this countrywide test of public opinion set to have a crucial bearing on whether John Major chooses to go to the country in June, Mr Patten's audience will be in little doubt of its true significance.

The pre-election atmosphere will be intensified by the sight of the prime minister making his first public speech since the allies' success in the Gulf war. His speech will be closely

scrutinised for hints about election timing.

Particular attention will be paid to any remarks by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, have to make about the fate of the poll tax. Earlier this week, a meeting of parliamentary private secretaries - unpaid ministerial legmen - to discuss the poll tax ended inconclusively.

As the difficulties of finding an alternative to the poll tax without creating another raft of disgruntled losers become more apparent, there are growing suggestions at Westminster among ministers and backbenchers that it might be better to revise the existing system rather than make wholesale changes. Wandsworth's announcement yesterday of a poll tax of £136 from April is likely to

strengthen their case that the present arrangements can be made to work. However, Mr Heseltine appears wedded to the goal of radical changes. Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, is considering the appointment of commissioners to take over the running of badly managed housing authorities in England (John Lewis writes).

He is discussing with colleagues whether the new power and another to prevent councils hiding scandals should be included in a bill to be introduced in the autumn.

By the time the poll tax is introduced, the government will have been in power for 10 years. The poll tax will be the first major change to the system since 1973. The poll tax will be the first major change to the system since 1973. The poll tax will be the first major change to the system since 1973.

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Past performance, how-



In surveys of actual results for 5, 10, 15 and 20 year regular contribution with-profits personal pensions carried out by *Planned Savings* magazine, 1975-1990, The Equitable Life has finished in the top positions ten more times than its nearest rival.

ever, is not a guarantee of future performance.

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Furthermore, unlike some companies, we will not penalise you for any adjustments you might want to make

to your pension arrangement, by increasing or reducing your contributions.

Even if you decide to retire earlier than planned, your benefits will be exactly the same as if you had chosen that date in the first place.

And, like everything at The Equitable, our position on the future is clear: we will continue to apply the principles of fairness and hard work that have served us, and you, so well over the years.

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*Planned Savings* survey of regular contributions, 10 years, with-profits personal pensions - June 1990.



Before you look to your future, look to our past.

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## £1m cuts to police budget contested

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIMES CORRESPONDENT

THE chief constable of Warwickshire is challenging the legality of his county council's decision to cut £1 million from a budget agreed by the police committee.

Peter Joslin said the force could save only £500,000 and faced the loss of 76 police and civilian jobs. The Conservative-controlled council was legally obliged to find funds for the regular establishment of the force.

John Vereker, the council leader, is adamant that the cuts are legally binding and that Mr Joslin has no case.

The financial pressure on police forces prompted a call yesterday for a royal commission on funding from John Newing, chief constable of Derbyshire, where a recent report from an inspector of constabulary criticised the poor state of police premises. The Labour-controlled council is planning to cut £2.4 million from the £65 million police budget next year.

## Third child lost

A boy aged two, who was drowned while his mother worked indoors, was her third child to die tragically, an inquest in Warwickshire was told yesterday. Heather Smith, aged 27, of Brampton, Leamington, said that she found her son, Alex, lying in the garden pond after playing with his dog. Coroner Tim Milligan, who was told that Mrs Smith lost her first son, Jamie, in a cot death, and her daughter Kelly, who suffered from Down's syndrome, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

## Pilot remanded

A former airline pilot yesterday pleaded not guilty to endangering a jumbo jet and its passengers while flying over Heathrow airport. William Stewart, aged 53, of Wokingham, Berkshire, appearing at Isleworth crown court, west London, also denied negligently causing the plane to endanger people or property on the ground. The case was adjourned until April 23.

## Murder enquiry

Police launched an investigation yesterday after a man aged 49 was stabbed to death at his workplace, Knights Bacon Company, meat distributors, of Witton, West Midlands. A police officer said the dead man, who has not been named, from Great Barr, Birmingham, had been stabbed and died of his injuries at the warehouse. A man was being interviewed by police last night.

## Cholera action

Food imports from Peru have been restricted as a precaution against the spread of cholera after an outbreak killed 100 Peruvians and affected 20,000 others. Frozen food and fresh produce airfreighted to Britain have been banned, said the health department, which also advised against eating creamed coconut under the brand names of KTC Pure Creamed Coconut (7oz) and Sea Isle Pure Creamed Coconut (7oz).

## Court protection

A bill to give new legal safeguards to defendants suffering from a mental handicap or illness was given a second reading in the Commons yesterday. At present, those unfit to plead because of insanity must be detained indefinitely. The bill requires courts to examine the facts and, if the accused is found to have committed the offence, the court will have options, ranging from detention to release.

Crossed charge guilty

Sheriff claims

Victory the Gun

INVESTORS



# Crossbow murder charge woman not guilty of burglary

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE woman who was accused of murdering Diana Maw with a crossbow two years ago was acquitted yesterday of burglary a yacht belonging to the man for whom the two women had been rivals in love.

Jane Salvesson, an interior designer, was also acquitted of handling some of the property stolen from the yacht and of stealing a personal notebook and diary belonging to her former lover, Mr Michael Stevens, a businessman in the computer industry.

After the verdicts were announced at the end of a three-day trial at Knightsbridge crown court, Miss Salvesson turned to the jury, nodded and said: "Thank you."

In December 1988 Miss Salvesson was arrested and charged with murdering Miss Maw, who was found dead the previous July with a six-inch crossbow bolt embedded in her neck. The Crown Prosecu-

tion Service withdrew the case against Miss Salvesson in April 1989 on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence against her. In October last year a charge of causing a fire in what was described as a "very personal attack" at Mr Stevens' home in Fulham, west London, while he was on honeymoon with his new bride, Joanna Baldwin, was similarly withdrawn for lack of evidence.

In the latest case Miss Salvesson, who lives in Ham-zar, west London, claimed that she had been framed by a man who sold her camera equipment which had been stolen from Mr Stevens' yacht at the end of Cowes Week in August 1989.

She said she met the man, whom she knew as Mark, the day after the break-in. She paid him £300 for the equipment. She told the jury of seven women and five men

that she had been watching a fireworks display and drinking with friends at the time the yacht was burgled. She said she had openly used the camera equipment at two weddings because she did not know that it had been stolen.

Bruce Houlder, for the prosecution, suggested that Miss Salvesson was suffering from such a "deep sense of emotional loss" after her relationship with Mr Stevens foundered that she spied on him and Miss Baldwin. He said she had photographed them kissing on the deck of his racing yacht Sodium in Southampton.

Miss Salvesson said that the photograph had been delivered to her flat anonymously by "some silly so-and-so trying to rub salt into old wounds". She said that Mr Stevens' notebook, which she was alleged to have stolen on a different occasion from the burglary, had found its way into her possession by mistake when the couple exchanged property after their affair ended in May 1988.

Miss Salvesson agreed that she had been distrustful when her relationship with Mr Stevens came to an end, but said that she recovered within six months.

Outside the court yesterday her solicitor, Neil O'May, said in a statement that Miss Salvesson was delighted with the verdicts. "She has felt victimised by the police and their incessant involvement in every aspect of her life. But for these proceedings she would be living an ordinary happy life. She feels completely vindicated by the decision."

Mr O'May added that Miss Salvesson had received large numbers of anonymous letters, telephone calls and photographs since she came to public attention. She had no idea who was pestering her.



Salvesson: vindicated by the court decision

## French list first 'mad cow' case

By MICHAEL HORNBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

INFECTED feedstuff is thought to be the most likely cause of the first officially confirmed case of "mad cow" disease in France, it was disclosed yesterday. More than 30,000 British cattle suspected of suffering from the condition, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), have been slaughtered and post-mortem examination has confirmed the disease in 24,400 of them.

BSE was found in brain tissue from a six-year-old Holstein cow from a dairy farm in Brittany. The other 65 heifers and cows in the herd have been removed for examination. The cow was born in France but its grandmother showed signs of BSE. "We do not have much more information as yet," Kevin Taylor, a veterinary officer, said. "But the French have confirmed that the cow was fed meat and bone meal of

the kind believed to have been responsible for the outbreak of BSE in Britain, though whether the feed was manufactured in France or imported from Britain is not clear."

The only other country outside Britain and Ireland, where there have been 32 confirmed cases, to have reported an indigenous BSE outbreak is Switzerland last November, where feedstuff is also suspected as the cause. Two cases of BSE were reported earlier from Oman, in animals imported from Britain.

LA A mysterious ailment of pigs, known as "blue sow" disease, has broken out on more than 1,000 farms in Germany and The Netherlands. The disease causes abortion and stillbirths in sows and lowers piglet production. It is believed to be linked to a similar disease in the United States. Britain does not import pigs from Germany or The Netherlands.

## Big Chief sees I-Spy idea back on road

By JOE JOSEPH

CONTRARY to recent press reports, Big Chief I-Spy is not dead, although he has held no big pow-wows since retiring more than 30 years ago.

Charles Warrell, founder of the book series that sent children looking for earwigs and aeroplanes throughout Britain in the Fifties and Sixties, is flourishing at Budleigh Salterton, Devon. He will be 102 next month, enjoys walking and gardening and still receives the odd letter from former I-Spy readers who have tracked Big Chief to his address of Wigwam-on-the-Water.

At the height of I-Spy's glory, Mr Warrell employed two women who did nothing but answer telephone calls from the hundreds of thousands of members of the I-Spy tribe. The I-Spy series, which died in 1986, is being revived by Michelin, using photographs instead of drawings. There are other changes. Children are asked to spot suno wrestlers and sand yachts as well as soccer grounds. When they collect enough points, they can still send off for an I-Spy badge. Now, however, badges will bear the logo of the pneumatic Michelin man.

"I was very surprised to read in a story in *The Daily Telegraph* on the relaunch of the I-Spy books that I had apparently died last year," Mr Warrell said yesterday. "The managing editor of the *Telegraph* rang me and asked me if I would accept some champagne." "Did he accept?" "I most certainly did," he said. The *Telegraph* also published an apology.

Mr Warrell does not do much spying himself now. Poor eyesight has made driving risky, although he still takes walks and does some gardening. His wife, Marian, who thought up the I-Spy



Espying the chief: Charles Warrell, Big Chief I-Spy, aged 102, at home in Devon

name, is as chirpy as he is, and, he says, "considerably younger". Mr Warrell does, however, have a vivid memory of his heyday.

"Eight publishers turned down the idea for I-Spy, so I published them myself," he said. "I've never had a very high opinion of publishers ever since. Woolworths displayed them for a few weeks and they sold like billy-o. Then the *Daily Mail* called and bought my body and soul for two years. I wrote a

weekly I-Spy column. Then the *News Chronicle* approached me, and very happy I was till I retired.

"I invented the name Big Chief I-Spy. I travelled the country holding I-Spy pow-wows - enormous gatherings. One of the last was 'I-Spy the city of Bath'. About 5,000 children and adults turned up. They wandered around looking for various things. Then there was a big prize-giving. Once, we hired 80 double-decker buses and

took 8,000 children to see the sights of London.

"I-Spy History was my favourite. It was also the one that grown-ups and youngsters liked best."

"After I retired, I went to America and approached Kodak. The idea was to sell an I-Spy camera with which children would take pictures and stick them in allocated places in I-Spy books. They were very receptive. But I was 65, family affairs intervened and I backed out."

## More film subsidies demanded by Britain

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

EUROPE can take on Hollywood, but British film makers believe that they need more money and commitment from the government to do so.

John Woodward, chief executive of the Producers' Association, has written to Lord Heskest, the trade minister with responsibility for films, to demand more money to encourage British-European co-operation in film production.

In spite of fears expressed by the British Film Institute last week that the government was going cold on a pledge of £5 million to help revive British film-making, Lord Heskest has reaffirmed the promise. The money is to be paid over three years, starting with £1 million in April and £2 million each subsequent year, as the basis of a European co-production fund administered by British Screen Finance.

Still in question, however, is whether the money will be Britain's contribution to Eurimages, a Council of Europe project, or the basis for a British-based fund to help raise European capital for English language films.

An announcement by Simon Perry, chief executive of British Screen Finance, that he intends to use the money to top up British projects was welcomed by film makers at a meeting this week, but they are insisting that they also need to join Eurimages, which would cost Britain another £2 million a year.

One film maker at the meeting described the £5 million as "Too little to do any real good, but too much to ignore, and at least we might get four or five films made which otherwise wouldn't be."

Producers believe that any challenge to American dominance of the film market must be through English-language films. A healthy British industry is, therefore, essential to any European challenge.

## Sheriff to hear claims of abuse

By KERRY GILL

THE families of nine children, who were seized from their homes on Orkney and taken into care after allegations of ritual abuse, are expected to appear before a children's panel next week to answer the claims.

The children, five girls and four boys aged between eight and 15, are likely to be kept in care on the Scottish mainland until the case is heard by a sheriff later this month. Last night the parents said they had been given no information about their children's whereabouts or even whether brothers and sisters were being kept together.

One mother, whose two

sons aged 11 and 15 were taken at dawn on Wednesday, said: "I have heard that the allegations will be put to us. We will refute them because we have not been involved in ritual abuse. We don't know if our boys are together. We are not allowed any communication with them whatsoever. We have less rights than a convicted prisoner."

The allegations made against the four families, who live on South Ronaldsay, were unclear. One parent said she had heard that they were supposed to have taken their children to a field where parents and children dressed in robes and masks before abusive acts took place.

A father said his children, a boy aged nine and a girl aged eight, were taken on Wednesday. The man, who has not been interviewed by the police, said: "It is disgusting. They burst in and took the children. They gave us no information."

The case has caused concern in the local community. Almost one thousand people were due to hold a public meeting last night in St Margaret's Hope to discuss the seizures; all the parents concerned were invited.

## University expansion 'done on the cheap'

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

UNIVERSITIES are being asked to expand on the cheap, their vice-chancellors said yesterday in a statement warning of threats to quality as a result of this week's allocation of funding for 1991-2.

After meeting to consider the implications of the 9.5 per cent increase in university budgets announced by the Universities Funding Council, the vice-chancellors said that they had reached the limit of efficiency gains that could be made without major damage.

The council has told universities to cut funding levels by 1.5 per cent, and to take in at least 7 per cent more students this autumn. While some will receive 19 per cent budget increases, several will be given only 4.5 per cent more.

Sir Edward Parkes, the vice-chancellor chairman, said: "Because there is too little money, the excellent is becoming the enemy of the good. In order to expand some universities, others have had their allocations cut to the point where their future is at risk. Where expansion is planned, it is to be done on the cheap."

He said that the result of this week's announcement would be larger classes and less contact between staff and students, less interaction between undergraduates and research students, and more crowded libraries, classrooms and laboratories.

## Archaeologists the real winners in Mappin & Webb ruling

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE conservation group Save Britain's Heritage, defeated in its attempt to prevent demolition of the listed Victorian buildings on the Mappin & Webb site in the City of London, yesterday contemplated the task of raising £150,000 to pay Lord Palumbo's legal costs.

Archaeologists, meanwhile, are reaping the prospect of exploring what lies beneath the buildings. Taryn Nixon, excavations officer at the Museum of London, said that the site is certain to yield valuable evidence from Roman and medieval times, and possibly from the Anglo-Saxon period.

"All the indications are that there will be a lot of remains that will be very well preserved, and we want to make a full evaluation of the site's potential so that we can decide with the developers how to treat it," Miss Nixon said.

The prospects for Save, based at Battersea, southwest London, are not so exciting. Marianne Watson-Smyth, one of its two paid staff, said she did not know how much the final legal costs would be but hoped that it would be less than the reported figure of £150,000. "We certainly have not got that amount of money and will have to launch a public appeal to help us," she said. "The Mappin & Webb site is a very important case, but only one of many we are involved with."

In its 16 years' existence, Save estimates it has been involved in around 5,000 cases and is now engaged in 500 a year. It relies for its

income on gifts from charitable trusts and around £5,000 from Friends of Save, making a total of between £50,000 and £100,000.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, has intervened in a planning dispute between Cardinal Basil Hume's Archdiocese of Westminster and the Victorian Society, the Westminster Society and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, says, however, that the plans will ruin the southern view of the cathedral and will intrude on the surrounding conservation area.

Cardinal Hume says the

four-storey building is needed for the cathedral choir school and the diocesan education service, responsible for 80,000 children. The conservation lobby, which includes English Heritage, the Royal Fine Art Commission, the Westminster Society and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, says, however, that the plans will ruin the southern view of the cathedral and will intrude on the surrounding conservation area.

Mr Heseltine intervened on

the planning application on Thursday, minutes before it was due to be discussed by Westminster city council's planning and development committee. His move came only hours after a letter of objection was published in *The Times* from three prominent Westminster residents, including Lavender Patten, wife of Chris Patten, Mr Heseltine's immediate predecessor as environment secretary.

Leading article, page 13

## Victory in the Gulf - a special report

It seemed the stuff of fantasy, a war in which tens of thousands died on one side and barely a handful on the other. Wise men shook their heads when *The Sunday Times* reported exclusively last August that Pentagon computers were predicting this casualty ratio, which was unprecedented in warfare. Was this techno-triumphalism gone mad? No, the forecast was vindicated this week in the Iraqi desert. In a 16-page special report on the victory in the Gulf in tomorrow's *Sunday Times*, foreign correspondents report on the courage and tragedies of the 100-hour war; analysts and columnists probe the problems of the peace; and the Jeremiahs who got it wrong are asked to eat their words.

A 16-page pull-out, in *The Sunday Times* tomorrow

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## Radio haggis has fish fooled

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH scientists have developed an electronic "haggis" and a robot "waitress" to help to unravel some of the enduring mysteries about the twilight world of the deep ocean floors.

The haggis, a radio transmitter wrapped in shredded mackerel and sown up in black stockings, is being used to tempt and track the curious fish species that survive the cold temperatures and high pressures at the bottom of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

The deep-sea robot, which dispenses the snacks, carries cameras and instruments to monitor the numbers of fish, their swimming directions and the sea currents. It is the first time that the techniques,

which were developed to track land and shallow water animals, have been applied to deep ocean floors.

The devices are helping to show that the ocean bottoms have a unique and lively food chain. Scientists used to believe that the deep ocean floor was dead and that anything dumped on the surface floated to a lifeless and secure bottom. Inants Friede, of Aberdeen university, which is at the forefront of deep ocean research, said: "The units are helping to show that there is no place on earth where you can go and there is nothing living."

The US government once considered towing the defunct nuclear reactors from polaris

submarines into the Pacific and letting them float to the bottom of the sea. Dr Friede, of the department of zoology, said: "It is now evident that if you drop anything from the surface you will have fish crawling over it within an hour. You might as well be putting it in a field and have animals grazing over it."

The two devices, an acoustic pinger and the Aberdeen university deep ocean submarine, have been developed by a team at the Scottish university and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the United States. The Natural Environment Research Council and the Woolfson Institute in London are supporting the research.

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JORDAN

## Husain turns his back on Saddam and woos Arabs

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN AMMAN

KING Husain of Jordan yesterday tried to break out of his country's isolation in the Arab world when he called on his people to put the war behind them and resume normal life.

In a televised address, the Hashemite monarch, many of whose subjects supported Iraq in the war against the coalition, said that Jordan "did not bear a grudge" and was prepared to "turn a new leaf". "On this day we see the beginning of a new Arab era," he said. "Today is a day to heal the wounds, restore Arab unity and lay solid foundations for a better future... This is the day when we should consider how to revive and develop the Arab regional order."

The speech was a clear departure from Jordan's previously pro-Iraqi position and was in stark contrast to King Husain's last televised appearance on February 6, when he

angered coalition countries by failing even to mention the occupation of Kuwait by Iraqi forces.

"Today our Kuwaiti brothers celebrate their return to their homes and the restoration of their independence. We share their happiness," said the king, who omitted any mention of his erstwhile ally, President Saddam Hussein. "Forgiveness and burying the past lead to healing the wounds and closing the ranks of the (Arab) nation once again," said the king, in a reference to the strained relations between Jordan and the Arab nations in the coalition, particularly Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt.

Western observers interpreted yesterday's remarks as a clear signal that Jordan wants to be readmitted into the Arab fold, particularly at a time when its economy is vulnerable and when it risks

being shut out of key post-war talks on the future of the region.

King Husain made it clear his country's economy was badly in need of financial assistance. Its exports were hit during the Gulf war, its tourism has ceased and the country is having to accommodate thousands of Jordanians forced to abandon their work in Kuwait and the Gulf states.

The Jordanian government said it had lost \$8 billion dollars, double its annual domestic economic output, during the Gulf conflict. Unemployment is at a record high of 30 per cent and King Husain said that hundreds of thousands of Jordanians were now living below the poverty line.

The Jordanian leader also made it clear that he wants to be included in any post-war conference on the Middle East, a subject which will be raised by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, when he visits the region this week, on a tour which does not include Amman. In particular King Husain appealed, on behalf of the Palestinians who make up a majority of his subjects, for the world to address the question of Palestine "by the same criteria that it has applied over the question of Kuwait".

Taken together the main elements of the speech suggest that the Jordanian leader feels confident enough about his domestic support to risk arousing the anger of his people by making overtures to the Arab states allied to the West. The rabidly pro-Iraqi Jordanian press yesterday appeared to tone down its criticism of the West, but the Jordanian police took no chances and sealed off large sections of the city to prevent demonstrators from reaching the American embassy.

Western diplomats, however, said that the conciliatory tone of the king's speech might not be enough to remove the deep-seated animosity felt by the Gulf states towards Jordan.

Bernard Levin, page 12

PALESTINIANS

## Arafat heads the losers' roll call

By RICHARD BEESTON

AT PALESTINIAN demonstrations these days it is rare to find a poster of Yasser Arafat among the hundreds of portraits of President Saddam Hussein and King Husain. But in the roll call of "losers" from the Gulf war, nobody's name figures more prominently outside Iraq than the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who has succeeded in alienating Arabs and Westerners alike with his support for Baghdad at a time when the prospects for a solution to the Palestinian question have rarely seemed so promising.

King Husain of Jordan may have compromised his position abroad with his pro-Iraqi stance, but at home he is enjoying unparalleled popularity with his Jordanian and Palestinian subjects. The same domestic support among

other pro-Baghdad Arab states, especially Yemen and the Maghreb countries, has similarly enhanced their leaders.

But for Mr Arafat the future looks far bleaker. Not only did he actively pursue his relationship with Saddam, at the expense of ties with politically influential and financially generous Arab countries, but he has also seemingly lost credibility with his own people.

In Jordan the majority Palestinian population is increasingly looking towards King Husain for leadership. In the Israeli-occupied territories the PLO's financial muscle — and hence its political influence — has diminished dramatically since the Gulf states cut off revenue to the organisation.



Points of view: a Jordanian watches King Husain's televised address in which he welcomed the freeing of Kuwait and omitted mention of Saddam

ISRAEL

## Shamir braced for Bush demands

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL has been celebrating and mocking President Saddam Hussein in carnival mood, and the Israeli army is praising the population for its courage under fire over the past 40 days.

But beneath the celebration and relief, Israelis were clearly worried that, although their restraint in the face of attack had earned Western admiration, America will soon demand concessions as it seeks

to construct a postwar Middle East order.

"Shamir sees the tunnel at the end of the light" was the *Jerusalem Post's* headline earlier this week when it reported that Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, had vowed to his Likud party that he would resist "outside pressure". Israelis are awed not only by the precision of the American-led victory over Iraq but also by the determination with

which it was carried out. Washington, many Israelis feel, will be in a powerful position to carry this decisive message into the postwar era.

To some extent, the war restored the American-Israeli strategic relationship, with the US rushing to provide Israel with anti-missile systems. But the right-wing Shamir coalition government has no illusions about the underlying attitudes of the Bush admin-

istration, which objects to Jewish settlement of the West Bank, and before the Gulf conflict began had tried to push Israel into a dialogue with the Palestinians. Neither Mr Bush nor James Baker, his Secretary of State, is seen here as "a friend of Israel".

On arms control, Israel's concern is that its own conventional and non-conventional weapons programmes could come under close scrutiny. Joint US-Israeli development of the Arrow missile system will receive fresh impetus and funds, and the Americans have already speeded up delivery to Israel of Apache attack helicopters.

But a question mark will hang over the scale of US military aid to Israel, currently \$1.8 billion (\$950 million) a year, if the allies press ahead with a regional security system based on disarmament. There are strains over Israel's demand for \$1 billion in war-damage compensation.

But the main issues on the agenda remain Israel's relations with the Arab states, and the festering Palestinian question. Israel's hope is that America will resist calls for an international conference.

MAGHREB

## Journalist murdered in Algiers

FROM PENNY GIBBONS IN TUNIS

A CORRESPONDENT for the Reuters news agency has been stabbed to death at his home in Algiers. Philip Shehadi, who normally reported on Algeria, opened his door last night to be attacked by an unknown man.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Shehadi was recently in the Gulf covering the war. Observers believe that he died at the hands of the radical Palestine Liberation Front group led by Abul Abbas. Abbas, who is in disgrace within the PLO, threatened to attack Western targets in support of Iraq at the start of the Gulf conflict.

The murder is the second assassination in three days of a senior Dutch diplomat, Robert-Jan Ackermann, was shot outside his home by three unknown men. Investigations are going on but there are no clear details about who murdered him.

Shehadi is believed to be of mixed parentage — half-American and half-Lebanese.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

## Jerusalem wins £175m aid

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE European Community is eager to leave its disarray over the Gulf behind and to carve out a role in postwar peace-making and reconstruction as fast as possible. Officials are preparing for the lifting of the embargo on Iraq and foreign ministers will debate the conditions on which it should end when they meet on Monday.

The community announced yesterday that £175 million in aid would be given to Israel and the occupied territories, following similar grants to

Turkey, Jordan and Egypt to compensate for economic war damage. Community foreign ministers will shortly resume visits to Arab capitals. A statement by the community said yesterday that "Europe will continue to stand by the Kuwaiti people in the hard task of rebuilding the country."

The Gulf presented Europe with dilemmas which many of its states successfully avoided since the second world war. Nato governments such as

Belgium and Germany were confronted with the real possibility that their armed forces might be required to meet binding treaty obligations and to fight for Turkey if it was invaded by Iraq.

Nato mobilised forces for the first time in its history, provoking a unprecedented debate in Germany over the use of armed force. Germans woke up late to the anger which their sluggish response raised in America, Israel and most of the rest of Europe.

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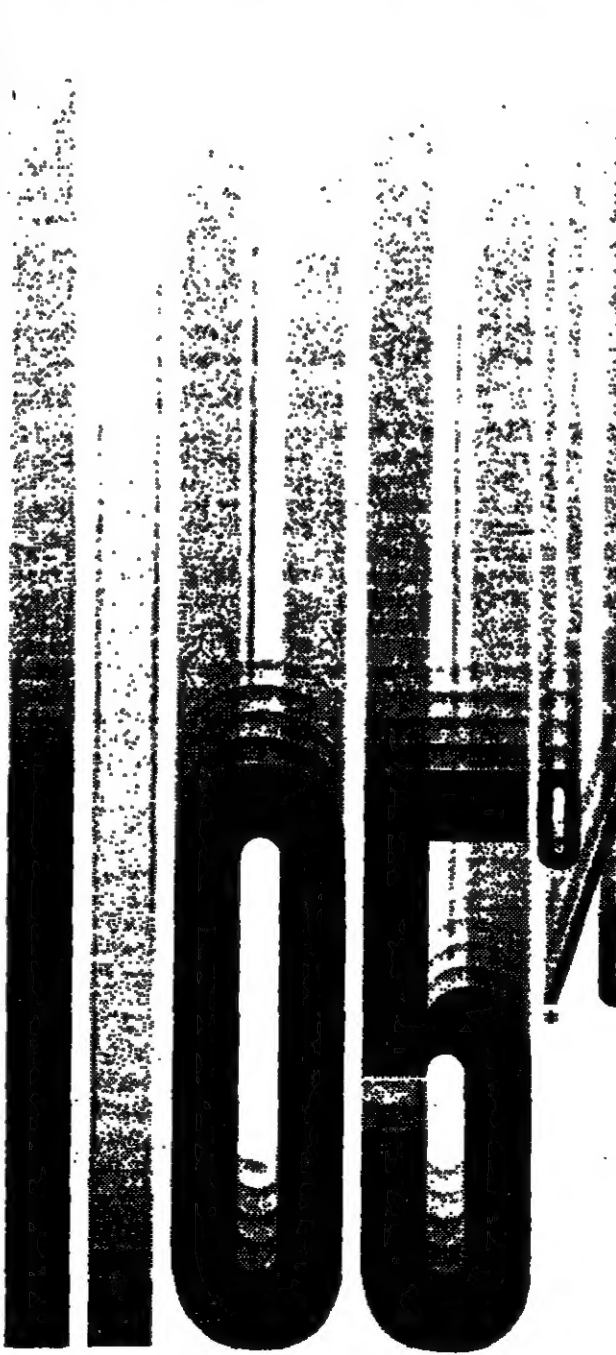
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## JUSTICE AND REPARATIONS

## Allied pressure grows for war crimes trials

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MUTILATIONS and torture inflicted on Kuwaitis by Iraqi soldiers have provoked horror throughout the coalition and increased the pressure for immediate prosecution of war criminals.

But, despite the warning by President Bush and allied leaders that anyone guilty of breaking the Geneva conventions would be held personally liable, the difficulties of enforcing justice are enormous. It is unclear who should lead any prosecution, under what law the Iraqis should be judged, where trials should be held and how the suspects can be apprehended.

Unlike the victorious forces at the end of the second world war, the allies do not occupy all Iraq, and cannot arrest

suspects who have fled to Baghdad. The chances of the Iraqi government allowing allied forces in to question suspects is slim, nor is their extradition to Kuwait likely. And the man who would head any list of indictments, Saddam Hussein, still clings to power in Baghdad.

The allies say they have full legal authority to begin prosecutions under international law. The security council resolution 674 reminds Iraqis of their personal liability, and requests states to compile evidence of any war crimes.

Allied forces in the field have begun to do this. Iraqis taken prisoner will be screened and questioned if any are suspected of war

crimes. Any evidence will be transmitted to the United Nations secretary-general for him to decide whether prosecutions should be brought. But the allies will probably need a new UN resolution to take personal action against Saddam Hussein, as they repeatedly insisted before and during the war that they were not aiming for his death or overthrow. Any attempt to put him on trial could cause an outcry in much of the Arab world.

A Nuremberg-style court is unlikely. There have been no mass prosecutions of war criminals since those in Germany and Japan, and the distant precedents are not easily transferable. With 28 coalition members, it would

be difficult to agree how the prosecution should be conducted and according to what laws. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait would undoubtedly press for suspects to be tried under Islamic law. Those convicted would face the death penalty.

Responsibility for any trial would probably be left to the Arab members of the coalition. These countries also are likely to lodge the main claims against Iraq for war reparations, another contentious political issue.

Although Iraq has accepted UN resolutions holding it liable to pay reparations, enforcement on a bankrupt country could jeopardise any hope of economic recovery. It could convince embittered Iraqis that the allied aim is the long-term destruction of their country and this might rally support around Saddam. And enforcement could pose formidable collection problems.

Experts estimate it will take ten years to rebuild Iraq's infrastructure. Oil is the only commodity that could raise the cash for Kuwait, and until the oil installations are repaired, the sanctions lifted and the price of oil rises in a market already suffering a glut, the Iraqis cannot easily be compelled to pay.

No one realistically expects reparations can ever be enforced, nor that Eastern Europe will ever get back the huge sums owed to it before the war by Iraq. The country's bankruptcy after the Iran-Iraq war is what provoked the invasion of Kuwait. Realpolitik dictates that reparations will remain a dead letter.

Mary Kaldor, page 12  
Leading article, page 13



Cheer leader: Barbara Bush waving the Stars and Stripes at Fort Meade, Maryland, during a visit to the families of American soldiers deployed in the Gulf

## Brussels seeks to control arms trade

Brussels — British forces in the Gulf found themselves facing sophisticated weapons made in friendly European countries (Peter Guilford writes). The European Commission would like to control the trade by merging Europe's divided arms market.

Brussels wants the entire arms production chain, from research through to exports, to be controlled collectively by European governments when they forge a common foreign and security policy.

A British government spokesman said the commission's call "reflects our own approach". But he said the government would insist on maintaining its veto on decisions on the arms trade. EC leaders supported export controls during their Rome summit last December, but the question of a joint arms research and production policy was left open.

## Epidemic feared

New York — Epidemics could kill more Iraqis than the allied bombardment and land fighting, according to Richard Reid, a UN official just back from Baghdad. Mr Reid's report warned of cholera, typhoid, meningitis, measles, poliomyelitis, hepatitis A and malaria.

## Troops must go

Nicosia — Iran said yesterday that the Muslim world would not allow Western troops to stay in southern Iraq. However, Tehran radio's international service added that Iraqis would soon break their silence and hold President Saddam Hussein responsible for their country's defeat by the coalition. (Kester)

## Royal scorn

Swansea — The Prince of Wales yesterday revealed his contempt for Saddam Hussein during a meeting with airman's wives and girlfriends. He told them: "I think he is a madman and I am very relieved that it is all over. Our servicemen have done a good job."

## Queen at HQ

High Wycombe — The Queen toured Britain's Gulf war command centre here yesterday to study battle planning. She spent an hour in the underground base for Operation Granby, the code name for Britain's Gulf operations.

## ATROCITIES

## Kuwaitis drained of blood and left to die by Iraqis

By NICHOLAS WAIT AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BODIES were left in the streets of Kuwait City after being bled to death to provide the Iraqis with blood supplies, a resistance fighter said yesterday.

Muhammad Abdullah, aged 30, said Iraqi soldiers and men in white coats, who looked like doctors, seized nine people in Kuwait suburb earlier this week. Witnesses said the people were bled to death behind poorly drawn curtains in the middle of a street.

Mr Abdullah, an army lieutenant, said the witnesses had told him the Iraqis also appeared to remove internal organs. "The people said they took away the blood in bottles. I saw the bodies afterwards. They had catheters sticking out of their necks. Only three were cut open," he said.

Abdul Bebbhani, a doctor from the city's Mubarak hospital, said: "The Iraqi military was short of blood. Maybe they needed body parts too. They were criminals. They could do the street surgery even if it didn't work."

Mr Abdullah also said he had seen 12 Kuwaiti women, their heads shaved and dressed only

in thin, bloodstained nightclothes, in the botanical gardens one night last November surrounded by Iraqi soldiers. "They were standing silently as if in shock. I don't know what happened to them. I had to go before the Iraqis spotted me," he said.

A prominent gynaecologist known only as Dr Hisham, who was suspected of treating resistance fighters, was hanged in front of his house for three days after his eyes were gouged out as a lesson to others, according to Dr Hassan, a Palestinian who preferred not to be fully identified. "One of his nurses saw him there and didn't recognise him," Dr Hassan added.

In the morgue of Mubarak hospital, stinking with the stench of death, Dr Bebbhani described the wounds of two victims. Forty-one corpses with bullet, knife and burn wounds, many with eyes gouged out, lay in the basement of the hospital.

Speaking angrily, but clinically precise, he said: "This is a recent cadaver. You can see his torture. His skull has been smashed, his brains are out,

his eyes are gouged out, he has been shot from close range. But he is lucky. He is recognisable. His family will be able to identify him. Others you can barely identify as human."

Dr Bebbhani went to a badly burned man. "I think this man was burned before he was dead," he said. "He has no face, no eyes, no muscles left on his legs. Look at the bullet hole in his left ear."

"We want the world to believe what we said. These Iraqis are war criminals."

## COMMERCE

## Whiff of peace revives tourist industry fortunes

By PETER VICTOR

THE British tourist industry looked to the future in hope yesterday after the ceasefire was announced. British Airways led the way in announcing the resumption of two Middle East services suspended at the beginning of the war.

Twice-weekly flights will start again to Bahrain on March 10 and to Tel Aviv on March 14. This means BA

will have restarted services to all its Middle East destinations except Kuwait, Riyadh and Doha.

BA has been hit hard by the war, seeing passenger levels slump on its normally lucrative North American routes. However, earlier this week BA said there had been some improvement on American routes as the end of the war approached.

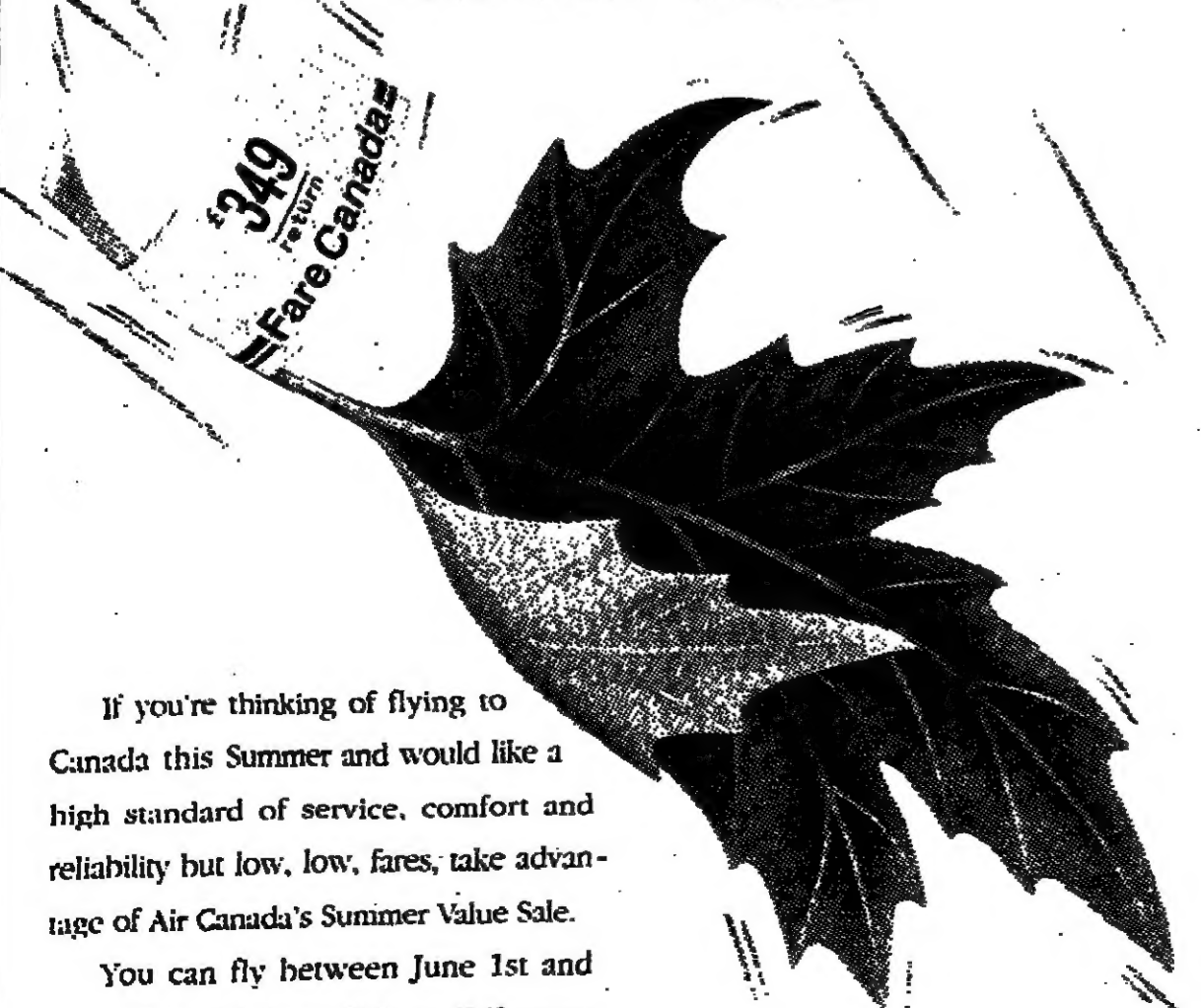
The British Tourist Authority was

already resigned to a shortfall of American visitors in 1991 even before the war began, because of the US recession and the weakness of the dollar against the pound.

Tour operators reported an increase in bookings earlier this week as would-be holidaymakers saw the end of the war in sight. The Association of British Travel Agents (Abta), said that many more people would start flock-

ing back to travel shops. Keith Betton, an Abta spokesman, said: "Now the war is over, we expect people to start booking holidays very quickly. We've noticed that whenever there's been a whiff of peace in the conflict, bookings have picked up. It certainly won't be too late to book a summer holiday. People have been going to travel agents for brochures — now we think they'll be booking."

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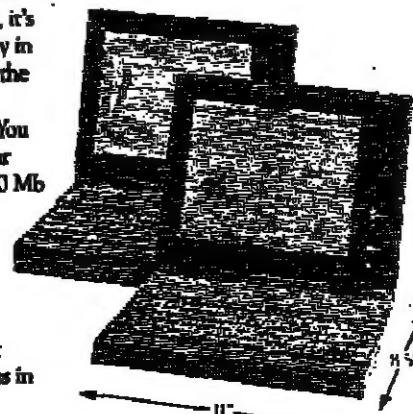
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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS



## Desert rendezvous as commanders begin to count the casualties

## Generals to meet defeated enemy on the battlefield

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

COMMANDERS from the allied and Iraqi forces are to meet today in the war zone to discuss ceasefire arrangements. The leading figures on the allied side will be General Norman Schwarzkopf, representing the United States, Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de la Billière, from Britain, and Lieutenant-General Khalid bin Sultan, from Saudi Arabia.

It is not clear who will represent the Iraqi forces. The Iraqi armed forces chief of staff is Lieutenant-General Hussein Rashid, who was appointed by President Saddam Hussein in October. Nor was it clear last night who had ordered the Iraqi military commanders to meet their allied counterparts today. The BBC monitoring service at Caversham, Berkshire, which has been monitoring Baghdad radio, said there had been no reference to the meeting.

The military headquarters for the Iraqi forces who were in the Kuwaiti theatre of operations is in Basra. But it seems unlikely that the com-

manders in Basra would attend a meeting with the allies unless there had been authorisation from Baghdad, particularly since the sensitive issue of allied prisoners of war would not be the responsibility of the commanders. Most of the allied POWs are air force crews who were shot down.

Top of the agenda will be the exchange of prisoners. Iraq has 13 known POWs: nine American, two British, one Italian and one Kuwaiti. But there are 56 others listed as missing in action, including ten British airmen. It is possible that some may be alive and being held prisoner. The allies have so many prisoners of war that they are still trying to process them all. Sending them back to Iraq will be a complex procedure.

Yesterday six more Iraqis were killed and six wounded in an exchange of gunfire with American troops at a checkpoint. Brigadier-General Richard Neal, US military spokesman, said that soldiers from the 24th US Infantry Division, manning a check-

point, stopped for questioning two buses that were heading west before returning home north. Gunfire erupted from the second bus, and the US soldiers returned fire, destroying the vehicle. Nine Iraqis were taken prisoner.

General Neal predicted that as the extent of the Iraqi casualties became more widely known inside Iraq, it would lead to the fall of Saddam. He said: "Reports of unrest inside Iraq are only the tip of the iceberg of the public disenchantment facing the Iraqi regime as the dimensions of its defeat in Kuwait sink in. I think what you're going to see is an emerging realisation of what he has done to his country. And I hope it leads to his removal. But that's purely a personal opinion."

US marines sweeping the battlefield were still finding pockets of Iraqi soldiers. Kuwaiti students accompanying the US troops were using loudspeakers to persuade Iraqis to surrender. General Neal said it seemed the Iraqi



Bitter parting: Al Kowakiewicz, aged 23, a tankman of the US 24th Mechanised Infantry, weeps for a comrade killed by mortar fire in the Euphrates valley

chemical warfare capacity might not have been as great as had been feared. It appeared that the Iraqis were "more afraid of our chemical capabilities", he said. "Some of their chemical equipment left a lot to be desired. Surprisingly, some of the Republican Guard forces had

even worse equipment than some of the other forces." British forces dug mass graves for Iraqi soldiers on the battlefield yesterday as helicopters flew boots and blankets to Iraqi prisoners, a senior British military official said. Colonel Barry Stephens told a military briefing in Riyadh

that dealing with the growing numbers of Iraqi prisoners had become almost as harrowing a task as burying the dead (Reuters reports from Riyadh). He would not give an estimate for the Iraqi dead. "I can't give you a precise number. We've been laying them to rest in mass graves," he said.

## SOVIET UNION

## Politicians and military vie to explain defeat

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet Union was a non-combatant in the Gulf war, but it suffered two resounding defeats none the less. On the field of battle, the Iraqi forces, equipped largely with Soviet weapons, were convincingly beaten. In the diplomatic arena, successive Soviet peace initiatives, culminating in the so-called Gorbachev plan, all failed. Kuwait was regained by the use of military means which Moscow had campaigned so fiercely to avoid.

These two Soviet defeats are already causing much soul-searching in Moscow. On Thursday evening, the defence minister, Marshal Dmitri Yazov, was quizzed in the Soviet parliament about the performance of Soviet weapons. His reply showed unusual candour for a Soviet defence minister, but it also exuded self-interest.

"What happened in Kuwait and Iraq necessitates a review of the attitude to the army's air defence and the country's entire air defence system," he said, mentioning that a special conference would be held to discuss the lessons the Soviet Union should learn. He said he knew of no instance where a Soviet-made Iraqi fighter had shot down any allied

plane or missile, but claimed 93 allied fighters were destroyed by Soviet-made Shilka air defence systems, suggesting that the air defence systems had performed better.

Marshal Yazov's remarks about the need for a thorough review of Soviet air defences probably belong as much in the context of the Soviet arms spending debate as in any comparison of superpower armaments.

The defeat suffered by Iraq, in which high-technology weapons determined both the strategy and the victory, gives Soviet generals a unique opportunity to press their case. However, in recognising also the need for a review of strategy as well — a cause dear to the hearts of army reformers — the marshal was acknowledging that more was wrong with the Soviet military than its weapons.

During the fighting, another version of that argument prevailed. According to this, any inadequacies in the Iraqi performance lay more with the Iraqis than with their equipment. Yesterday, that view was expressed again by the anti-traditionalist and former Warsaw Pact chief, Marshal Viktor Kulikov. The marshal, who is now an active member of the Soviet parliament, denied that Soviet equipment was defective, blaming the defeat mainly on the poor training and general inadequacy of Iraqi soldiers.

Acknowledging that most Iraqi officers were Soviet-trained, he told the independent Interfax agency: "You cannot always succeed in planting your knowledge into someone else's head." He went on to criticise the Iraqi decision to dig its troops in so deeply, which left them immobile and indefensible.

A worried Pravda correspondent asked whether the Soviet Union had weapons to match those being used by the American forces in Iraq. He was told that they had some, but not all of them.

While the Soviet military post mortem on the Gulf war is likely to concentrate more on spending than on strategy, at least in its early stages, the diplomatic post mortem will focus entirely on strategy and could rapidly become more ruthless. Soviet foreign policy throughout the war seemed to contain three divergent strands. There was a pro-American view which advocated full participation in the anti-Iraq coalition; a pro-Iraqi view, which argued that Moscow's strategic and ideological interests lay in supporting Iraq and criticising Mr Gorbachev for "breaking" the bilateral friendship treaty; and a middle view, which advocated limited appeasement of Iraq to avoid a military conflict and preserve what they saw as Soviet interests in the Middle East.

Western diplomats here emphasise that the Kremlin will be playing a full part in drafting the ultimate peace settlement, but Soviet ideas about what that settlement should be will divide along the same ideological lines as during the war.

Baltic test, page 10

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## SPECIAL FORCES

## Undercover role behind the lines

By MICHAEL EVANS

AMERICAN special forces were in Iraq the day the Gulf war broke out, and within two weeks the country was like a "special operations theme park", according to a United States official yesterday.

"Those guys were doing a hell of a job," he said.

The British Army's Special Air Service and Royal Marines' Special Boat Squadron were also heavily involved in operations behind enemy lines as soon as the allied air campaign began. Some members of the American special forces units "got in trouble", the official said but he gave no details.

General Norman Schwarzkopf, the allied commander in the Gulf, said on Wednesday that special forces acted as liaison between Arab and English-speaking troops, called in air strikes, handled search-and-rescue missions and did strategic reconnaissance. They also carried out some direct action missions, he said.

It is believed that the American special forces teams, including Delta Force, formed in the image of the British SAS, the Green Berets, Rangers and Seals, equivalent to the British Special Boat Squadron, used helicopters with sound-proofed engine mountings and muffled exhausts to reduce noise.

American special forces use Chinook MH47E troop-carrying helicopters which are specially fitted with an in-flight refuelling capability and guns. The Blackhawk MH60K is another helicopter designed

for American special forces. But it was not due to be in service until later this year and may not have played a part in the war.

The successful way in which the Iraqis were fooled into thinking the Americans planned a huge amphibious landing on the coastal strip in front of Kuwait City was dramatically illustrated when allied soldiers arrived in the capital on Thursday.

On the floor of a school assembly hall used as an Iraqi command centre, they found a detailed battle plan with large red arrows indicating the expected marine assault from the Gulf. The plan also showed that every Iraqi tank and artillery piece, from the desert outskirts of the capital to the seashore, faced the Gulf.

The guns of the Republican Guard were also facing in the wrong direction when American armoured divisions suddenly arrived to their rear in southern Iraq. They were expecting an allied strike from the south through Kuwait.

The Americans did not know they had hit the Republican Guard until they found themselves firing at modern Soviet-made T72 tanks.

The second deception of the allied campaign, involving 250,000 American troops, began in the last 42 hours of the war. The troops moved rapidly through desolate Iraqi desert for the showdown with the Republican Guard. Tens of thousands of vehicles were strung out at least 50 miles, each carefully following the tracks of the one ahead.

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## Baltic republics test mood of public over independence moves

From ANATOL LIEVEN in TALLINN

LATVIA and Estonia are tomorrow holding referendums which will test support for independence among the local Russian population. Results from ethnic Latvian and Estonian voters are hardly in doubt; like the Lithuanians last month, they will opt, almost without exception, for independence.

Neither vote will be constitutionally binding. The Estonians have said that future government policy will be based on the results of the referendum; Latvia has described its vote only as an "advisory poll". The Lithuanian government started off that way and then pronounced its poll a constitutional plebiscite when the result proved overwhelmingly in favour of independence.

In Estonia, with a 40 per cent Russian-speaking population, the results may not be clear-cut. The Russian-majority town councils of the northeast have agreed to hold the poll, but have added a second question: "Do you want a sovereign Estonia to remain in

the Soviet Union?" Talks with local people in Narva suggest that up to one-third of the 96 per cent Russian population may square their particular political circle and vote both for independence and for remaining in the union.

The decision of the town councils of Narva, Kohtla-Järve, and Sillamäe to include the second question has angered Estonians, who accuse them of deliberately confusing the issue. This confusion, however, may produce a bigger vote for independence than would otherwise be the case.

Few inhabitants of Narva are for independence without qualifications and guarantees for Russian-speakers. On the other hand, few want Narva to break away and be party to the miseries of the Russian Federation, just across the river, even if Estonia does become independent.

In the Estonian capital, Tallinn, the workers who make up the bulk of the Russian population are mainly opposed to indepen-

dence, while the intelligentsia is too small to make much difference. In the Russian rural areas of the northeast, support for independence is strong, but the population is small.

The Estonian leadership, having thoroughly alarmed the local Russians with talk of strict qualifications for gaining future Estonian citizenship and language laws which, if strictly implemented, could have cost many Russians their jobs, have in recent months been adopting a much more conciliatory policy.

● Moscow — The Soviet parliament digressed from the business of endorsing members of the new Cabinet of Ministers to pay tribute to President Gorbachev on the eve of his 60th birthday today (Mary Dejevsky writes). Tass said deputies singled out Mr Gorbachev's "exceptional role in renewing Soviet society", his "great contribution to ending the cold war" and his peace initiatives directed at ending the military action in the Gulf.

## Moscow orders a trade shake-up

From MARY DEJEVSKY in MOSCOW

THE Soviet foreign trade establishment, long a hive of bureaucracy and corruption, is to be gradually broken up into separate companies authorised to compete with each other, according to a senior Soviet official.

Igor Faminsky, who heads a research establishment under the state foreign economic commission, said yesterday that the plans had no time scale yet. The disclosure may have been intended to parry hostile foreign comment about the Soviet prime minister's allegations of an economic coup attempt against President Gorbachev. Any positive effect, however, would have been negated by documents from the Russian parliament which drew attention to the confusion prevailing in the foreign trade sector.

The Soviet parliament finally approved a bill which will ban Soviet citizens from spending foreign currency within the frontiers of their own country from April 1. The legislation is intended to prevent the "dollarisation" of the economy caused by falling confidence in the rouble.



On the breadline: Bulgarians queue outside a bakery in Sofia, but for one man, his hands wrapped in socks against the cold, shortages bite deeper than most

## 150,000 Ukraine miners strike

Kiev — A quarter of the Ukraine's 600,000 miners yesterday obeyed strike leaders' calls for 24-hour industrial action. Elsewhere in the Soviet Union, thousands of miners from Siberia and Kazakhstan were also reported to have joined the action (Robert Seely writes).

The majority of the 250 Donbass pits in eastern Ukraine continued working and Ukraine's government described the strike as a "failure". The Donbass area, covering 155,000 square miles, is strategically vital to the Soviet economy. The region produces almost a quarter of the country's annual coal output.

Yesterday's strike was called after negotiations broke down over demands for more than a doubling in wages to coincide with expected price reforms later this month. An indefinite strike is planned to start on March 11. Pit leaders are also calling for their political demands to be met, including the resignation of President Gorbachev.

Nikolai Volynsk, a spokesman, said that most of the pits in the Donetsk region in the Donbass had taken industrial action, although throughout the regions the results have been mixed. "We are continuing with our plans to hold an indefinite strike. Miners who continued to work did so because they were told they would lose 200 roubles if they took action."

## Refugees in peril

Colombo — Sri Lankan helicopters dropped leaflets yesterday asking about 10,000 civilian refugees to leave the jungle in the North-Western province as the government is launching a military offensive in the area against Tamil separatist guerrillas. They are among a million people forced from their homes by fighting between rebels and government troops since June last year.

● BRINDISI — A fishing boat carrying 142 Albanian refugees reached Italy safely yesterday, a day after Albanian coastal patrols fired on another ship and killed a man aged 33, authorities said. (AP)

## Party pledge

Ulan Bator — Budgechaa Dashnyondon, aged 45, the new chief of Mongolia's ruling Communist party, has taken power, pledging to deliver his country from deepening economic problems through democracy and free-market reforms. He faces a slumping economy and growing unemployment. (Reuters)

## Key town falls

Nairobi — Rebels in northern Ethiopia claim to have captured Debre Markos, capital of Gojjam province, in their biggest victory since launching an offensive a week ago. They also claim to have killed, wounded or taken captive more than 1,300 government troops. (Reuters)

## Vampire victims

Lima — Six people bitten by vampire bats died of rabies this month in an Amazon jungle region bordering Ecuador. The Peruvian health ministry said the outbreak was first detected on February 11 in a jungle region 500 miles north of Lima. Inhabitants of the area are mainly members of the Aguaruna-Huambisa Indian tribe. (AP)

## Tirana awaits Mother Teresa

From RICHARD BASSETT in TIRANA

MOTHER Teresa arrives in Albania today to open a charitable house, as calm returns to the country and the authorities show signs of relaxing their military grip.

The 80-year-old missionary, whose parents were Albanian, will bring with her four nuns who will live in a reopened Catholic house in Tirana. Religion has only recently been permitted in Albania, which in 1967 declared itself to be the world's first atheist state. More than 10 per cent of Albanians are Catholic, the rest are mostly Muslim.

After demonstrations last December, the code prohibiting religious activity was reformed and Mass celebrated for the first time in decades.

A lorry carrying rosaries, crucifixes and bibles, all sent in Albania, is expected to arrive at the weekend. President Aliu clearly hopes that Mother Teresa's visit will indirectly bolster his position and distract Albanians from their growing frustration with the ruling Communist party.

Mother Teresa's arrival coincides with the onset of Ramadan, and Tirana's Muslim population is now able to visit the reopened mosque. All the religious activity accompanies a mood of increasing calm, and yesterday, for the first time in a week, no shots were heard in Tirana at night. The leadership clearly hopes that the next few weeks will be tranquil so that elections scheduled for March 31 can take place.

● BRINDISI — A fishing boat carrying 142 Albanian refugees reached Italy safely yesterday, a day after Albanian coastal patrols fired on another ship and killed a man aged 33, authorities said. (AP)

## Woman guilty of lover's murder

From JOHN PHILLIPS in PARIS

LAWYERS pledged to appeal yesterday after a French court found a woman, aged 60, guilty on charges of shooting her lover and chopping up his body with an electric concrete slicer. She was sentenced to a 20-year prison term at the end of a sensational trial.

After ten hours of deliberations on Thursday, the jury at the court in the eastern city of Nancy returned a guilty verdict against Simone Weber on the charge that she carried out the bizarre murder of Bernard Hettrier. The prosecution had asked for a life sentence, but the judge apparently took into account her long spell in prison awaiting trial.

The jury acquitted Weber on charges that she also fatally poisoned her husband in 1980. Weber was absent from the court when the verdict was announced. She had been taken ill a short time before and had been taken to hospital.

The sensational trial has provided the main diversion from the Gulf war in France amid accusations by the defence that it had turned into a farce and a witch-hunt.

M Hettrier disappeared on

June 22, 1985, after an alleged quarrel with Weber. The prosecution charged that Weber shot and killed her lover with a single bullet fired into his head. Then she chopped up his body with an electric concrete slicer and dumped his torso in the River Marne, the court heard.

Prosecutors said she stashed her lover's limbs into black rubbish bags and left them on the pavement outside her home where they were collected by dustmen.

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# Both sides of the truth

Clifford Longley

A dash into the danger zone and an equally rapid retreat to partial cover marked the first close encounter this week between Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, and some of the more entrenched and embittered forces in the Church of England. He blundered and promptly realised it. But did he realise it enough?

There was once a concert pianist who maintained that not until the first mistake — and the immediate surge of adrenaline — did a performance really come alive. So perhaps the scales and arpeggios will ripple from Dr Carey's keyboard all the better. But his more apprehensive listeners will worry that he started not just with a wrong note, but in the wrong key.

He had said, in an interview with the *Reader's Digest* given more than three months ago, that "the idea that only a male can represent Christ at the altar is a most serious heresy". Heresy is the "h-word" of Christianity, a theological declaration of war. In his retraction on Wednesday, Dr Carey substituted "fundamental theological error", feeling no doubt that that is the sort of thing academic churchmen say about each other all the time, with no offence. But it is still the sort of thing archbishops of Canterbury, elect or not, are expected to announce about approximately one quarter of their own church, or even, these days, the sort of thing they say about the Pope or the Patriarch of Constantinople.

The "heresy" or fundamental error he was referring to, Dr Carey explained in his elucidation, consisted in "making the maleness of Christ more significant than his humanity". In other words, women should be qualified for ordination as priests because they were human, not disqualified because they were female. That is a respectable opinion, unanimously held in the free churches already and ever more widely spreading in the Roman Catholic Church, but it is not yet a sure and certain truth in the Church of England. It may be true, but only quite recently has anybody thought so.

As conceived by at least the last three archbishops of Canterbury, the job of the Primate of All England and Primate of the Anglican Communion is essentially the successful management of change, including the change involved in allowing women priests. That requires keeping a measured distance from theological controversy, so that neither side feels alienated and unchurched.

Dr Carey, by his original remark and no less by his amendment to it, has made many Anglicans feel very unchurched indeed. He achieved almost the same effect when he told some clergy opposed to women priests in the diocese of Bath and Wells that they ought to consider whether they had a future in the Church of England after it ordained women.

The implications for his period in office at Lambeth Palace are serious, not so much because he is right or wrong but because he is putting at risk his leadership, and

hence all the fine things he hopes to do as leader. It would be easy indeed for him to be dragged into a running battle over the ordination of women and its consequences, leaving no space for anything else.

What else, exactly? At the start of his *Reader's Digest* interview he described the Church of England as an "elderly lady who mutters away to herself in a corner, ignored most of the time...". The greatest challenge facing the church was to "present the Christian faith simply, so that people can understand it and follow it". But if this "granny", as he called the church, is to be so obsessed with quarrelling about the family inheritance with her other elderly relatives, grumbling toothlessly about their "heresy" that she will be ignored all of the time, poor dear.

Dr Carey's temptation may well be to bump off the relatives as fast as possible, to end the quarrel that way. Or if he cannot bring them to see the "fundamental error" of their ways, he will try to squeeze them out. But most of them will not go willingly. Some will be prepared to inflict almost any amount of damage on the church in the process, telling themselves that if they lose it will not be "the church" any more and its fate will hardly matter.

For they believe, rather more literally than Dr Carey believes

**'If 'granny', as he called the church, is to be obsessed with quarrelling about the family inheritance, she will be ignored'**

the opposite, that the ordination of women is heresy, or close to it. The origin and nature of heresy in the church has been much debated. The classical theory is that heresy is not so much plain error, as the result of over-emphasis on one side of a two-sided truth — that Jesus was true.

Christ was true in his humanity, for instance. Heresy often starts when "and" tends to become "or" in such apparent paradoxes, for instance the classic heresies that Christ was more God than man (Docetism), or more man than God (Arianism). (There is no intended significance here in the use of "man"). Heretics do not like paradoxes, and insist on resolving them.

Dr Carey has explained that the error he was attacking lay "in making the maleness of Christ more significant than his humanity", whereas his contention is that Christ's maleness is not, in this respect, significant at all. "It is as human rather than as male that he identifies with and saves both men and women." If Christ's gender does not matter, then neither does the gender of the priesthood. In that case it would not matter if there were no women priests. But clearly he thinks it does matter.

The error he describes, which fits well into this classical pattern of heresy, is the stressing of one side of a two-sided truth, the emphasis on Christ's maleness to the detriment of his humanity. To correct it, however, he forces a choice between Christ's maleness or his humanity, as if only one aspect could be significant and the other is to be known which. It must be an "either/or" and cannot be an "and/both". But is this not, just as much, in the classic pattern of heresy? Dr Carey may have started the very debate he thought he had ruled out.

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

A report into the police service has just been published by the Audit Commission. In summary, it questions efficiency and criticises management structure. Its conclusions are intuitively correct, so I tried to follow the argument by which they had been reached. I was soon lost in a maze of conceptual reasoning, management consultants' lingo, and personal-speak. "Is this", I wondered, "the only way we can approach such enquiries?"

I thought back to a frustrating morning spent on the telephone, after encountering a road accident the night before, on my way to the railway station. I had been first on the scene, so had called the emergency services and given what help I could until ambulance and police arrived, before continuing my journey. "I'll ring the police tomorrow," I thought, "to find out how the injured are."

The delay made me hours late in arriving at London. Still, I was almost home. I just needed to nip over the Euston Road to the cash machine, then down to the underground — if that is, I hadn't missed the last train.

If you stand with your back to Barclays Bank, and look across the Euston Road, you can, with one sweep of the eye, survey the clock towers of St Pancras and King's Cross stations. King's Cross told me that I had missed the underground by ten minutes. St Pancras had more encouraging news: if I hurried, I might just make it. I did.

When, next morning, I telephoned the police station nearest to the accident where I had helped out, there proved to be no practical way that a member of the public could identify, let alone speak to, the officers who had dealt with the incident. Nobody seemed to know what had happened, nor who would know. No single officer had followed the affair through. The whole thing had splintered into a disarray of partial responsibilities.

My own audit commission report would approach its task rather differently. It would be a report not on "policing in England and Wales" nor even on "the allocation of officers' responsibilities after road traffic accidents". What I want is a report on why this particular member of the public was unable, on that particular morning, easily to discover news of that accident.

Let us, in other words, start from the micro rather than the macro picture. We do not need to stop there. The enquiry may spread outwards and upwards. It may conclude by confronting the divergence between the way an organisation sees its work and the way customers encounter what it does. But let our enquiry start from a single flash snapshot of a single detail — something that went wrong — and let that flash illuminate, from the bottom up, the ranks above. Many such flash reports will follow. I shall read with interest the report of the Royal Commission into "why on December 15, 1990 the time on

the clock tower at St Pancras did not tally with the time on the clock tower at King's Cross." Whose responsibility was that? If nobody's, why? If somebody's, has he been disciplined? If the clocks are faulty beyond repair, why? And so on.

Witnesses would be called, starting with me. Clerks, time-keepers, clock-makers and junior managers would give evidence. Each, perhaps, would blame somebody else. In that case, each somebody else would be summoned. And, gradually, from that first freeze-frame flash, centring upon that single, verifiable error, light would spread outwards, illuminating error elsewhere.

A comprehensive picture would be constructed of an entire organisation at a single moment in time: the moment when the time at St Pancras was different from the time at King's Cross.

I do not presume to know the conclusion. The enquiry might end by blaming not the management of British Rail at all, but the transport minister, for failing to allow them enough money to mend their clocks. It may end with a disquisition on the "financing and management structure of British Rail". It may end by censuring a trade-union-dominated work ethos in which nobody can properly be called to account for his failures.

Let it end, if it must, with a grand and general statement. But let it start with something we can see: the clocks. Then we shall be more likely to believe, and understand.

The reason for my correspondents' feelings stemmed from the same source as my original article: they had lived through the second world war, and could remember at first hand the all-encompassing danger from bombs and the general insouciance with which they were regarded, as well as the

resolve on both sides to use any degree of force or fire power on any enemy target — an enemy target being any place, whether a barracks or an orphanage, in which members of the enemy nation, soldier or civilian, might be found. (I was somewhat too sweeping in my claim that there were practically no voices raised against the policy of saturation bombing. Max Hastings sent me a copy of his book *Bombing Command*, which shifted the perspective, not least because it reminded me of that remarkable man Richard Stokes, MP, a kind of sinner Tam Dalyell.)

Let us look at the Victoria station bomb first. The gangsters who planned it naturally wanted to kill as many people as possible, and must have been dismayed at the small number of casualties it caused (while the Paddington one hurt nobody). But murder, however gratifyingly numerous its victims, was not their principal aim. What they wanted was chaos, and they not only achieved their goal with a satisfying completeness, they are still getting it almost daily with telephone calls.

For readers who have no firsthand recollections of the second world war, let me describe another practice from those times. When the air raid sirens sounded, an illuminated sign would be switched on in places of entertainment; it announced that a bombing raid was expected, and calmly added that those patrons who wished to leave were requested to do so without disturbing those who did not. The point I am making is not that the people were brave then and are cowardly now, but that the long years of peace have contributed to a lamentable loss of balance; we cannot see the haystack of normality and safety because we are so used to finding the needle of the chance injury. After all, in the second world war many places

as though Iraq was a superpower, and America had more troops in Saudi Arabia than it had in Europe at the height of the Cold War. Iraq is a small, Third World country, apparently incapable of operating much of the expensive technology provided by its industrialised suppliers. The captured Iraqi soldiers had holes in their shoes.

The triumph of the West is matched by the anger, frustration and humiliation experienced by much of the Arab and the Third World. The Gulf war will have made Middle East problems harder to solve. It represents a setback for the Palestinians, and democracy seems no closer in Kuwait and Iraq. The Emir of Kuwait has said he will impose martial law for three months, even though, according to the Kuwaiti constitution, martial law can only be declared by parliament (suspended since 1966). And who knows what will happen in Iraq? Will Saddam be overthrown? Can

the opposition groups form a united coalition? Or will Iraqi society lapse into warring factions, as in Lebanon?

The Gulf war has polarised opinion throughout the Third World. Undoubtedly, one consequence will be the rise of nationalism and fundamentalism. This, in turn, is likely to lead to a new military build-up in Third World countries, creating the conditions for future Saddams and future wars.

Can anything be done to prevent a new north-south divide? It is doubtful whether Western governments can bring about a reconciliation, at least in the near future. Proposals for a Middle East security system or for a conference to resolve the Palestinian question, which is central if other problems in the region are to be solved, must be left to the countries of the region.

There may be a role for non-governmental organisations.

Peace, green, human rights, and women's groups, that are less tainted by the war, could engage in efforts to reconcile Christians and Muslims, Europeans and Arabs, north and south, both here in Europe and in the Middle East.

The hopes generated by the 1989 revolutions in Eastern Europe need to be recaptured. The real tragedy of this war is that the world had a chance to construct more peaceful, cooperative ways of solving international problems; a chance to reduce military spending and to try to address the problems of poverty and the environment. We had a chance to liberate Kuwait through the pressure of sanctions and international public opinion. Instead, the military momentum of the last six months seems to have made war acceptable again, even popular.

Mary Kaldor is author of *The Imaginary War: Understanding the East-West Conflict*, recently published by Blackwell.

## More wars are likely to spring from the bitter legacy of the Gulf conflict, writes Mary Kaldor

# A time for mourning, not rejoicing

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# Stiffen the upper lip

Bernard Levin says that years of peace have left most Britons with little understanding of how to deal with threats to their life at home

S omewhat to my surprise, I feel obliged to return to the subject of my column published on February 26, in which I combined two themes. The first of them concerned the striking difference between the civilian attitudes to what was happening in the Gulf in these recent days and those, which I remembered from my childhood, which were felt and expressed during the second world war. The other was a discussion, obviously linked to the first, of the measures as unnecessary as they were hysterical, which were taken (with, as far as I could see, general approval) in the wake of the Victoria station bomb.

I cannot remember any previous occasion on which my readers have written to me with unanimous agreement. Significantly, they did not just commend my thoughts on the subject as similar to their own; in very many of the letters there was an expression of gratitude. Now for a columnist to be thanked in an event sufficiently unusual to warrant examination. In this case the letters themselves provided the clue. The writers were thanking me for strengthening them amid what they saw as a tragic and shocking decline in that indefinable, but essential, quality required in any conflict morale. Again and again the word "wimps" occurred in their letters, equally distributed between British Rail and those who deplored (except for religious or socialist reasons) the allies' intention of pressing the war home by all legitimate means.

The reason for my correspondents' feelings stemmed from the same source as my original article: they had lived through the second world war, and could remember at first hand the all-encompassing danger from bombs and the general insouciance with which they were regarded, as well as the

resolve on both sides to use any degree of force or fire power on any enemy target — an enemy target being any place, whether a barracks or an orphanage, in which members of the enemy nation, soldier or civilian, might be found. (I was somewhat too sweeping in my claim that there were practically no voices raised against the policy of saturation bombing. Max Hastings sent me a copy of his book *Bombing Command*, which shifted the perspective, not least because it reminded me of that remarkable man Richard Stokes, MP, a kind of sinner Tam Dalyell.)

Let us look at the Victoria station bomb first. The gangsters who planned it naturally wanted to kill as many people as possible, and must have been dismayed at the small number of casualties it caused (while the Paddington one hurt nobody). But murder, however gratifyingly numerous its victims, was not their principal aim. What they wanted was chaos, and they not only achieved their goal with a satisfying completeness, they are still getting it almost daily with telephone calls.

For readers who have no firsthand recollections of the second world war, let me describe another practice from those times. When the air raid sirens sounded, an illuminated sign would be switched on in places of entertainment; it announced that a bombing raid was expected, and calmly added that those patrons who wished to leave were requested to do so without disturbing those who did not. The point I am making is not that the people were brave then and are cowardly now, but that the long years of peace have contributed to a lamentable loss of balance; we cannot see the haystack of normality and safety because we are so used to finding the needle of the chance injury. After all, in the second world war many places



where many people came together, including churches, were hit by bombs, sometimes killing large numbers. But I have no recollection of any catastrophe in the form of a panic stampede. Indeed, so unpopular was a government decree ordering the closing of theatres that it did not last long: the Windmill theatre (alas for history, it is now a part shop) actually refused to comply, and for many years after the war its proudest boast, blazoned on its frontage, was "We never closed".

Why, then, do we close instantly

now? Another memory springs relevantly to mind. The civilians on whom the bombs were falling continued, and in no mere token formed, another theatre of war: the British Isles were designated the "Home Front", to emphasise the truth that there were not two species — soldiers and civilians — but only one, with different duties and for that matter different uniforms, but equally essential.

Now, however, though assuredly British troops in the Gulf were admired, I think there was something of a division between the

two; the sense of one nation under arms was missing, and I do not believe that that was because the enemy was unable to attack the Home Front directly.

Another subject discussed in the unsolicited letters I received was the modern invention of "counselling", my correspondents were contentions of the enormous quantities of cotton wool now offered free to those who, say, have been in a terrorist attack, though not themselves even injured.

Closely parallel are the recent claims by "experts" that those civilians trapped in Iraq when the war broke out, and who for a week or two were sent as hostages to military installations, would need long and careful psychiatric treatment for this traumatic experience. So they will if the experts get to them first, though the truth is that any sensible man or woman in a war — or in the London traffic, for that matter — is in danger of death a hundred times a day.

I there no one in the generation younger than mine who shares my outrage that it is now possible to get public money from the courts for suffering "stress" at the scene of a disaster — not for receiving injury but simply observing it? And will he or she go the next mile with me, and back me in arguing that even damages for real injury should be compensated commensurately with the wound, so that someone confined to a wheelchair would be reimbursed for the lost years of activity but that a victim with a broken leg which heals completely should get only the cost of missed wages and medical expenses?

We have fallen asleep on our laurels. I do not, of course, believe that the British Isles will ever again suffer direct attack, and I think it very unlikely that we shall even need to participate in a coalition war such as the one that has just finished. Good; entirely good. But the crucial lesson for time of peace, so grimly learned in the second world war, has apparently been forgotten: if it had not been, we would count ourselves lucky that we were not involved in a war which knew no mercy, and marvel at those who thought that the Gulf war was one such. And we would rise in revolt when the entire railway network is stopped because of a couple of loon bangers.

## Crumbling





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# The ghost of Langham walks again

A new Hilton has risen from the body of one of the London's most famous and spectacular Victorian hotels. Callum Murray looks at what has survived and what has been lost in the process

On Monday the Langham Hotel in Portland Place, London opens for business as a hotel once more, following a 50-year enforced sabbatical. After wartime bombing demolished one corner of the building and fractured its main water tank, sending 38,000 gallons of water cascading through its seven floors, the hotel was closed to the public and used mainly as overflow office and studio space for the BBC. In 1985, however, it was sold to the Ladbroke Group for £26 million, to be converted into a hotel again.

Ladbroke has since acquired Hilton International; so, when the hotel opens on Monday, it will be known as the Langham Hilton.

The restoration of the building has cost £80 million. It would be difficult to imagine a worse time than this to try to recoup such an investment, but the general manager, Rudi Jagersbacher, is not worried. "If I had here an ultra-modern block, it wouldn't have worked," he says. "But there is a trend to go back to traditional hotels."

The Langham was inaugurated the first time round on Saturday June 10, 1865, with a "private view" for the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII. An article in *The Times* predicted that the Langham, along with contemporaries such as the Grosvenor, the Westminster Palace and the Grosvenor hotels, would soon "not only be able to bear comparison but to defy comparison with any of the world."

The Langham terminates the vista looking from Regent's Park down Nash's broad and gracious Portland Place. There were few finer sites in London. But for a hotel which, from the start, stressed its solidly British qualities, the competition-winning design displayed a surprising mixture of European styles, with its Italian Renaissance campanile, Venetian Gothic windows on some bays, and Parisian mansard roof. The architects were Giles and Murray, with some interior designs contributed by Owen Jones, the superintendent of the Great Exhibition of 1851 and the author of the influential source book, *The Grammar of Ornament*. Jones's "Moorish" decorations were matched over the years by some exotic guests: Napoleon III, Oscar Wilde, John Everett Millais,

Mark Twain, Antonin Dvofak and Noël Coward all stayed in the hotel. "You will find me at the Langham," announced one of Conan Doyle's characters in the first Sherlock Holmes story ever published, "under the name of the Count Van Kramm."

The building's restoration was a mighty job, involving both new building and refurbishment. The main facades — the north, looking up Portland Place, and the east, facing Nash's All Souls church — have been broadly retained by the architects, the Halpern Partner-

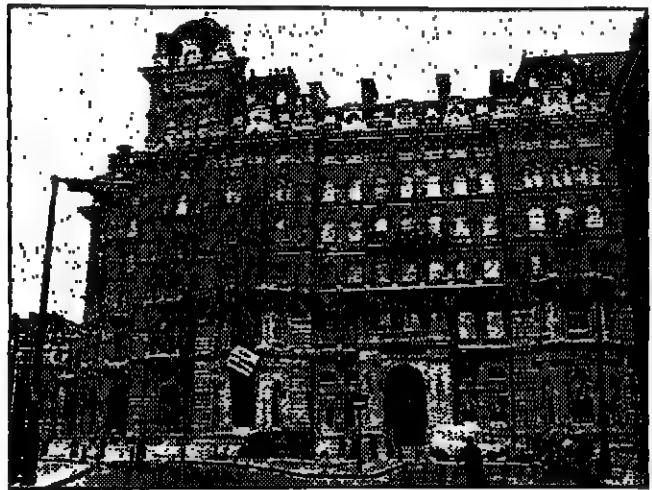
pire restaurant, with its splendid semi-circular bay window. In its last incarnation this was a less than charismatic BBC canteen. Now it has a hand-painted ceiling, a parquet floor, a curious "Moorish" screen concealing an exit, and a menu that will include dishes from China, India, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. The banqueting and ballroom is a magnificent room flanked by columns, with a coffered ceiling picked out in gold leaf.

All this is unexceptionable. The materials are of good quality, and well detailed; the style shows imagination bordering on recklessness. But the fact is, this is still a Hilton hotel.

Five-star or not, it is part of an international chain, with all that that implies for its design and decoration. True, you never get the feeling, as you do in cheaper hotels, that the opulence is only a veneer, a millimetre-thick gloss of luxury. But this has much to do with the building's original massive structure, whose ghost seems to survive. (The Langham boasts many sightings of real ghosts, dating mainly from its BBC occupation, the most famous by the radio announcer James Alexander Gordon.)

The problems begin as you ascend through the bedroom floors. In the top-price suites on the first floor, fittings and furniture are of mahogany, and the corridors are wide and spacious. But in the "standard" rooms, the fittings and furniture are a very un-Victorian American red ash, the corridors narrow and low-ceilinged. Worse still, perhaps, the mid-range suites have a combination of the dark mahogany and the light red ash.

In 1865, the hotel had 200 bedrooms with prices beginning at 18d a night; the new Langham has 410 rooms, including 50 suites, which will be "in line with current five-star prices", according to its public relations agency. Whatever this means, the Langham's guests will unquestionably get a place with a character unlike anything else in London — until they go upstairs to bed. There, unless they are in the millionaire bracket, they will find themselves in a familiar mix-and-match world of standard elements. The furniture "does not rise above the level of ordinary upholstery", complained *The Building News* in 1865. Good to see the old traditions maintained.



Restored to glory: exterior of the new-look Langham Hilton



Licensed for dining and dancing: top, the listed banqueting and ballroom magnificently refurbished, its coffered ceiling picked out in gold leaf, and (above) doing service earlier this century as a dining-room

Help: home hair stylists

## Cutting in the kitchen

HAVING the hairdresser come to your home instead of going to a salon means you can carry on working, look after the children and supervise supper. Heidi Phillips worked as a hairdresser in King's Road, Chelsea, and thought about becoming a "flying stylist" when she saw the difficulty clients had parking their cars. "It was a clamping area and it was a nightmare, particularly for people having highlights; it was impossible to get them in and out of the salon within two hours."

What also convinced Ms Phillips to go freelance was that so many clients worked from home. "Many women can come into the salon on their way to work, or in their lunchbreak; but people working from home are not so keen. It takes up too much time."

"Now my clients wash their own hair, then I cut it and do a blow-dry. They want easy styles they can manage themselves, so I see them every eight to ten weeks." She charges £15 for a cut and blow-dry and £30 for highlighting. She also goes to offices at lunchtimes to do groups of clients. "Some people have bathrooms at work, but if not, they just wash their hair at home in the morning and I take a water spray. I set up their office like a mini salon, with a sheet on the floor."

For those living out of London, a trip to the hairdressers combined with shopping used to be a treat, but Michael Peru, a stylist at MacMillan's in Covent Garden, has found that out-of-town clients want him to travel to them.

Every month he spends two or three days at the home of one of his clients in Chester, Cheshire, and she invites 20 or so friends to have their hair done, too. "I charge £25 for a cut and from £40 for perming or colouring. My wife, Elaine, was my assistant before our baby was born and they are both coming along with me soon. It makes a change for us, and clients like to have a London hairdresser."

HEATHER KIRBY



Heidi Phillips: cut and run

### Events in town

#### THIS WEEKEND

■ **Sailboat '91:** National dinghy show with trade stands, expert talks and videos. National Sports Centre, London SE20 (081-778 0131). Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £4, child £1.50.

■ **London International Classic Car Show:** Sixty top owners' clubs, including MG, Rover and Morris, plus a Jaguar concours. Today, an auction of 40 classic cars at 2pm; tomorrow, an auto jumble. Alexandra Palace, London N22 (081-365 2121). Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £5, child £2.

■ **The Video Show:** All the latest equipment on display, plus seminars and demonstrations. Business Design Centre, Upper Street, London N1 (071-836 2973). Today 10am-6pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £3.50, child £2.50.

Street, London N1 (071-836 2973). Today 10am-6pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £3.50, child £2.50.

■ **Weekend Walks:** In London today, "A Dickens stroll" — meet Russell Square Tube station, 11am. Tickets £3. In Durham tomorrow, "Durham City" with the archaeologist Peter Clark — meet market place, 2pm. Adult 80p, child 40p.

■ **Sheep dog nursery trial:** Last of the season's trials. East of England Showground, Peterborough (0733 234451). Today, 9.30am until dusk. Free.

■ **Frances Hodgkins — The Late Works:** Guided tour of the exhibition of paintings by the New Zealand-born artist. Turner Art Gallery, Eastbourne (0323 411688). Tomorrow, 3pm.

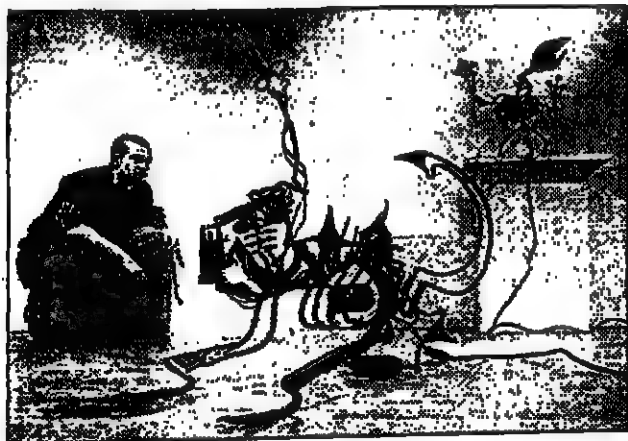
#### NEXT WEEK

■ **RSPB Royal Gala Concert:** The countryside provides the theme for all but one of the works to be performed by the English Simfonis, conducted by Meredith Davies, with Julian Lloyd Webber as soloist. Barbican Centre, London EC2 (071-638 8891). Mon, 7.45pm. Tickets £8-£25.

■ **Ecology — A Greenhouse Effect:** Built in a 19ft high glass cavern, the exhibition takes visitors on an ecological journey through the complex web of life via interactive videos, models and displays. National History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 9388). Fri onwards, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm. Adult £3, child over five £1.50.

JUDY FROSHAUG

### Assets



Open: David Boyall's creature has a halogen light "tongue"

## Going the ways of the weld

SCULPTURAL metalwork for the home is taking on new shapes and treatments. There are low tables artfully showing off the welding marks, dog-like creatures with halogen light tongues, and mobile chandeliers suspended from electric railway tracks.

These are among the exhibits at the Crafts Council selling show, "City Steel", which opens next Wednesday in London. The show is the first to group together work by the vanguard of designer-makers of sculptural metalwork — André Dubreuil, Tom Dixon, Jon Mills and Mark Brazier-Jones — with a new wave of craftspeople who crush, rust, distress, patinate and recycle non-precious metals and waste materials into post-Modern furniture and lighting.

"City Steel" is the first public exhibition for Mike Savage, a metal sculptor who received a Crafts Council setting-up grant three years ago, which enabled him to buy a welding machine to develop large pieces. He is showing a triangular-topped console table with three sardine-shaped legs, and a low, pedal-shaped table decorated with dramatic welding marks.

David Boyall's assertive animal skeletons offer a light source which is affected by the

beasts' movement. The jaws of a dog-like creature part to reveal a halogen light "tongue". Open, the jaws provide strong, directional lighting; closed, they subdue the light to a moody glow. Mr Boyall's more usual offerings include pared-down steel chairs.

Tim Gray is exhibiting a motorised chandelier, built on an electric railway track suspended from the ceiling. Made of hydraulic brake piping, brass and steel, the light works on random motion and moves around every 30 seconds. "It's good for dinner parties that become too boring," he says.

The "City Steel" curator, Ralph Turner, was also responsible for "The New Spirit", a Crafts Council-sponsored touring exhibition that introduced the metalworking talents of Dubreuil, Dixon and Ron Arad five years ago.

"The metal movement has now been adopted all over the world," he says. "But it was here in London that it started and looks set to develop."

#### NICOLE SWENGLEY

■ **"City Steel":** March 6-May 12. Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, London SW1 (071-930 4811). Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 3-5pm. Free. Mike Savage can be contacted on 071-928 1864; David Boyall, 071-923 4732.



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# Gathering for a fair deal

**Sarah Jane**  
**Checkland reports**  
**on prospects for**  
**the biggest arts fair**  
**in Europe at a**  
**Maastricht**  
**'supermarket'**

Europe's biggest fine art fair is preparing for take-off next weekend, amid expectation that its quality will draw buyers, and that, despite everything, it might flop.

Some 140 dealers from ten countries will converge on the border town of Maastricht, in The Netherlands, hoping to reap the benefits of proximity to the great collecting nations of Europe. They will set up shop in the MECC, a ghastly supermarket of an exhibition centre, offering a superb range of exhibits, from carpets to glass, and sculpture to contemporary painting.

The greatest emphasis, however, will be on old masters, particularly of the 17th century Dutch variety, designed to attract the north Europeans who are their traditional buyers. More than 3,000 old master paintings were offered last year. Highlights among the works this year will be a recently discovered wooded landscape oil painting by a copyer by Jan Brueghel the Elder, for \$3.8 million (£1.97 million) at the Newhouse stand, and the only portrait by Modigliani of his early patron, Madame Madou, at the Joseph Guttmann stand.

Thanks to the felicitous booking of 52 advertising slots on CNN, the television news network, before the Gulf war, organisers have been inundated with enquiries. According to Johnny van Haeften, a dealer and organiser, "We had so many requests for tickets, we've had to reprint them." Parties of "fair, groupies" of international collectors who follow the quality fairs all over the world — are booked to come from the United States.

Another encouraging sign for exhibitors is evidence that, disaffected with the auction houses, collectors are returning to dealers as outlets for works. As Sotheby's has reduced its major old master sales from three to two this year, dealers queue up to display wares from private sources.

"I have got four or five



On the supermarket shelf: Modigliani's *Portrait of Madame Madou* and Jan Brueghel the Younger's still life of flowers, both for sale at the Maastricht fair

pictures where the owners have preferred to sell through me rather than go through the auction rooms," Mr van Haeften says, citing his flower painting by Brueghel the Younger, on offer at £350,000, as an example. Konrad Bernheimer, of the Bernheimer Gallery, adds:

"Very good and interesting pieces are getting very rare in auctions. Everyone wants them. Sometimes prices at auctions are simply too high. And then the object is known as a non-seller" around the table.

Whereas great collecting nations such as America and Japan have been holding back recently, the typical Maastricht client — wealthy, Continental — has not. Unlike the British and Americans, whose habit is to live in a state of permanent debt, they buy with their excess cash, and are therefore

under less strain. And, of course, the apparent end of the Gulf war should boost many markets, the art market included.

On the downside, however, is the fact that, despite its worthiness, Maastricht is no glamorous Paris Biennale, and big-name international collectors such as Baron Rothschild and Jane Wrightman are expected to stay away.

Because of general economic problems, many areas of the market were already plunging before the Gulf conflict. Although the fair has recruited 38 new participants, including Richard Philp, Garton European prints and Stoppensbach & Delestre from London, a group of top London dealers — Artemus, Colnaghi, Richard Green and Harari & Johns — has pulled out. "The market is at the

lowest ebb I have ever known it," says Derek Johns, of Harari & Johns. "The timing is unfortunate. I think it will take several months to recover." He believes the Grosvenor House fair in June has far better prospects.

Germany has the largest contingent of exhibitors — 30 of them. Claus Hubner, the Würzburg dealer who sold \$100,000 worth of glass at Maastricht last year, says that when he and six other German dealers joined the fair, six years ago, his countrymen were reluctant to acknowledge the European market. Now he says, they are all competing strongly. Albrecht Neuhaus, a specialist in old masters and furniture, is "astounded" by the strength of the market. "In spite of difficulties" this has been his best year, he says. Herr Bernheimer, who sells European furniture and works of art, Chinese porcelain and textiles in Munich, admits to "being a bit worried during the first half of January, when it



was extremely quiet. But two or three weeks ago it picked up. I have done extremely well selling Chinese porcelain to German private people."

In Paris, Alexis Kugel, the silver, sculpture and paintings dealer, says: "There is still a lot of money around and I am hopeful. The French furniture market is still going strong because people are still buying apartments and houses, and still need furniture."

Italian collectors, although hardly represented at this northern-orientated fair, have been showing surprising eagerness to buy, notably at the Marcolle collection of old masters in New York during January.

Belgium and The Netherlands remain relative backwaters, although Maastricht tends to be the place where Dutch collectors come into their own, buying Dutch pictures.

The traditional diffidence of dealers means that no one ever finds out the true results from art fairs. In the current, stringent circumstances, this gives them a distinct public relations advantage over the auctions, whose results are made public. Whatever happens, all concerned will put a brave face on Maastricht, and most will be back at the supermarket next year.

European Fine Art Fair, MECC, Maastricht, from March 9 to 17. Tel 010 31-73 145165 before the fair, 010 31-43 836363 during the fair.

## Exports rise to £2.2bn

### Review

**Floodgate:** Britain's exports of art and antiques increased by almost 20 per cent last year to £2.2 billion, according to the *Antiques Trade Gazette*. This is depressing news for our heritage. Imports of £1.9 billion were up 13 per cent. During the same period, before the Japanese retreated from the market, exports of antiques to Japan alone rose by 57 per cent to £55 million, while the figure for paintings was up 68 per cent to £310 million. This compares with £18 million of antiques which came into Britain from Japan, and £41 million of pictures.

**Signing up:** Saddam Hussein's signature sold for £220 at Neales of Nottingham this week. The signature was on a greetings card. President Bush's signature was part of a lot that fetched £65 at the same sale, and the Emir of Kuwait's signature sold for £35.

**Rocks roll:** Jewellery performed better for Sotheby's than Christie's last weekend in St Moritz. Sotheby's unsold figure was 37 per cent, compared with 50 per cent at Christie's (one reason for the latter statistic was the high proportion of stock offered by the trade). Sotheby's top performer was a ruby and diamond ring, which sold for 2 million Swiss francs (£827,235) to a Geneva dealer. A pair of sapphire and diamond clips by Boucheron fetched £335,365 (estimate, £235,000).

**Cashing in:** Treasury bills with a face value of more than £500 million were sold by Christie's to a German for £88,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000). They were issued to raise money for the counter-revolutionary White Army after the October 1917 uprising, but never honoured.

**Preview**  
**Tuesday:** Sotheby's Sussex furniture sale, 10am, includes a 20th century gilt

wood throne, surmounted by a vaguely oriental deity, with carved supports made up of exotic birds and beasts (up to £800). At 11am, Phillips has a horseless Munnings, *Sunlit Willows, Dedham* (up to £15,000), in its British painting sale.

**Wednesday:** Christie's silver sale includes the first of Victoria's Queen's Trophy shields, a silver-gilt

piece (up to £15,000) won at Cowes in 1838, and the King's Cup tankard for 1828 (up to £35,000).

**Thursday:** Paintings, silver, jewels, porcelain and dolls at Lawrence of Crewkerne at 10am, and a good mixed sale at Hy Duke across the border in Dorset, 10.30am.

**Thursday and Friday:** Twentieth century British and Irish paintings and watercolours at Christie's, with the "traditionalist" offerings on Thursday at 2.30pm, including a splendid, if figureless, Stanley Spencer canvas, *Gypsophila* (up to £100,000), and post-war and contemporary sections on Friday, 11am.

**Sotheby's Sussex:** Billingshursts (0403 763433), Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6002), Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW1 (071-581 7611), Christie's King Street, St James's, SW1 (071-589 9000), Lawrence, South Street, Crewkerne, Somerset (0406 730411), Hy. Duke & Son, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester (0305 265080).

*There is still a lot of money around*

### ARTS REVIEWS

## Hilarity returns to the dark night

**THEATRE**  
**Twelfth Night**  
**Playhouse**

NOT long ago *Twelfth Night* was regarded as Shakespeare's most serene comedy. Then the scholars remembered that the great tragedies came only a few years later, and began to see darkness, danger and malice behind the play's smiles; and, inevitably, the directors followed. Toby Belch became a horrid, bulbous drone, the practical jokes he plays on Malvolio almost demanded investigation by Amnesty International, and Illyria seemed barely sunnier than Birnam Wood or Dunstan.

Peter Hall clearly wants to edge back the pendulum. The orange tree in Timothy O'Brien's courtyard set is shedding autumnal leaves. David Ryall's clown has his lugubrious moments, but otherwise melancholy is missing. Indeed, Dinsdale Landen's Belch, with his curls, looping moustaches, red Carolean garb and genial grin, seems to be auditioning for a Frans Hals painting; he is not just a laughing Cavalier, but a hilariously gurgling one.



Wonderfully wintry disdain: Eric Porter's Malvolio

That is not the only trend Hall challenges. His production rejects the guileful detail, the verbal nuances, the pregnant pauses so beloved of the RSC in particular. That entails some loss but also a new briskness and momentum. Moreover, Hall takes pains to establish points important to the plot that are usually neglected by super-subtle directors.

Thus Richard Garnett's Orsino clearly feels a half-conscious pull towards Maria Miles's fine, bold Viola. At one moment he actually strokes her chin and kisses her lips. That makes it easier to believe his renunciation of Sara Crowe's pert Olivia for a girl he thought a boy. Again, Martin Jarvis has been encouraged by super-subtle directors.

as the "great quarreller" the text calls him.

True, that does not explain why he dresses in what I at first mistook for a huge wicker picnic basket but later realised was a yellow plaid blanket that had been converted into knickerbockers stretching up to his wispy off-white hair. The visual impression is of Beckett's crazed Lucky playing celebrity golf. Nevertheless, this incongruous figure has a surly truculence, a macho swagger that for once explains why he is quick to cuff or challenge those he thinks he can beat, such as the "male" Viola.

That leaves what could, should and maybe will be the evening's major performance, Eric Porter's Malvolio. Certainly his clay-coloured, pockmarked face exudes a wonderfully wintry disdain. Certainly he twists in plausible glee when upmarket fantasies seize him, and certainly he frisks comically enough in his yellow stockings. But if the idea is to suggest that inside the old, grumpy mutton is a lamb, waiting for release, it does not yet come off. His two Malvolios have yet to cohere into one. Time may yet do it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

**OPERA**  
**The Magic Flute**  
**Covent Garden**

WHEN Covent Garden's *Magic Flute*, directed by August Everding and designed by Jürgen Rose, was new 12 years ago, it had no pretensions beyond telling the story straightforwardly. Now revived once again by Helmut Leiberger, there is some slight evidence of rethinking, but the new ideas superimposed on the old structure scarcely make for an integrated production.

The admonition to beware of "woman's malice", for example, is now countered by a surprised reaction from Papageno. Yet no other opportunities have been taken to confront the work's lapses into

misogyny and racism. A half-hearted acknowledgement of the problem is no solution, especially when Wilfried Judd's skilful surtitles pulled no punches.

The staging jogs along amiably enough, but it all lacks sparkle and brio — largely a matter of timing, for there much feel of the broad humour, bordering on farce, that differentiates Schikaneder's low-brow comedy for the suburban Viennese theatre from the more elevated Da Ponte operas.

Olaf Bar's Papageno is an engaging creation, winning sympathy with his warm, affable nature and bringing a *Lieder* singer's precision to the details of his vocal lines. He is also a tolerably good actor and would make a more memorable impression in a sharper production.

Luciana Serra achieved the unusual distinction of sounding both sweet and secure in the stratospheric passages of her two arias, while producing a much less pleasant tone, hard and thin, in the middle register. Donald McIntyre's Sarastro was also disappointingly ill-focused. He is a white-

haired elder, who looks the part, but his inability to discipline that generous voice robbed his role of its natural authority.

There were good contributions from Linda Kitchen as Papagena, Kim Begley as Monostatos, Anthony Michaels-Moore as the Speaker, and Gillian Webster, Anne Mason and Anne-Marie Owens as a splendid trio of Ladies, ruthless in their amorous squabbling over the unconscious Tamino.

Stephen Bartow, in the pit, kept things moving at a crackling pace, with generally satisfactory gear changes. He has not yet managed to keep his cast with him all the time, but his freshness and energy are welcome, even if they tend to show up the comparative lameness of the production.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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**CHANNEL 4**

**9.00** **Comic Book. Cartoons 7.00** Trans World Sport  
**8.00** Channel 4 Daily  
**9.15** Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line 9.25 Sing and Swing (r) 9.30 Same Difference (r). (Teletext) 10.00 Free For All (r)  
**10.30** **Film:** *The Runaway Bus* (1954, b/w/r). It's worth hoping on to this gentle comedy, capably steered by Frankie Howard on his firm director's seat along well-worn lines. A bus picks up fog-bound passengers at London airport but gets lost itself. Sitting quietly on board are a mixture of thieves and detectives. With Margaret Rutherford and Petula Clark. Directed by Val Guest  
**12.00** **Saturday Men (b/w).** A chance to see former England manager Bobby Robson as few will remember him in this vintage documentary profile of West Bromwich Albion football club.  
**12.30** **The Munsters (b/w).** Creaky old comedy about a family of ghouls which will make a shuddle (r)  
**1.00** **Film:** *The Student Prince* (1954). Predictable, improvisational operetta about a shuck-up prince (Edmund Purdom) sent to Heidelberg university to learn about the life and falling in love with a waitress. Mario Lanza sings, but was too fat to be seen on screen. Directed by Richard Thorpe  
**3.00** **Film:** *Seven Hills of Rome* (1958). Mario Lanza had obviously slimmer down enough for this one, in which he does a lot of singing but not much else. He is an American television star who goes to Rome after a fluff with his girlfriend and there falls in love with a local woman (Maria Alasio). Directed by Roy Rowland  
**4.55** **Visit Prague.** The history of Prague in a six-minute cartoon  
**5.00** **Brookside.** Omnibus edition of the earthy Liverpool soap. (r) (Teletext)  
**6.30** **Right To Reply.** Liz Forgan, Channel 4's director of programming, defends the screening of last Monday's film *Vish Vint*. *Steel Rain*  
**7.00** **The World This Week.** Includes a report on what the Allied victory in the Gulf will mean for the future of Iraq. Followed by Weather  
**8.00** **The Land of Wales: RITV Valleys.**  
**8 CHOICE:** A report from Llanfrothen in north Wales highlights attempts to preserve the Welsh language in the face of English incursions. To an extent it is funnier story. The Welsh have moved out for better jobs and more money, the English come in to buy holiday homes or to retire. But the story goes back to the 19th century when a growth of slate quarrying gave the area both an industry and the special Welsh culture. When the slate industry collapsed, Llanfrothen was forced to turn to tourism and the cultural homogeneity was broken for ever. The film reveals that instead of inheriting the holiday homes, the villagers have tried to come to terms with the new arrivals who have made their contribution to social harmony by sending their children to school to learn Welsh. One of the locals admits: "We are too ready to let the English take over and then find fault with them, whereas the problem may be in ourselves". (Teletext)  
**9.00** **Law. Superior American drama series about a Los Angeles law firm (r)**  
**10.00** **4-Play: In The Border Country.**  
**8 CHOICE:** A brooding drama from the Irish playwright Daniel Mann offers a contemporary version of the Orestes in the story of two sister families locked in a blood feud which is pursued to the death. Since the Irish troubles have the inevitability of Greek tragedy the conspiracy to have forced, although Mervin's intention is the personal rather than the political. In a strongly cast production, Juliet Stephenson plays the woman who changes family allegiance after plotting the death of her violent husband (Sean McGinley), only to fall victim to the revenge of her children. Sean Benn is the assassin and Saskia Reeves his mistress. The director Theodores O'Sullivan, whose first feature film *December* *Director* was released last month, opts for a portentious style, mixing gloomily if inebriating landscapes drained of colour which are populated by low figures framed against the sky.  
**1.10** **The Secret Cabaret.** Musician Simon Drake brings the inanimate to life. Ricky Jay demonstrates why he never becomes caught up in card games and James Rand and Geno Muratori expose some underhand chicanery common to fraudsters (r)  
**1.40** **After Dark.** Open-ended discussion on the cost of the peace in the Gulf. Two Palestinian housewives, an Israeli arms broker and an international banker  
  
**Irish blood feud: Juliet Stephenson, Saskia Reeves (10.00pm)**

**W** London excepts 1:40pm The South  
West Week 2:10-3:05 Bedminster 12:35pm  
Fri The Family Hour 2:00 The H-Man and  
Haw 4:00pm The Family Hour 4:00pm  
The Ninth Air 2:00-3:05 Armada's Top Time  
5:00

**WIS** Wisconsin excepts 2:10pm-3:05 The Life  
and Times of Grizzly Adams 12:35pm The  
S.W. Match 1:45 America's Top 10 2:05  
The Americans 2:25 America's College  
Football 2:30-3:05 The American College  
Highways 4:35-5:30 Superstars

**WINE TEES**  
Wine Tees excepts 2:10pm-3:05 The  
Eman 12:35pm Film Debut: All from Evil  
1:00 The H-Man and Haw 4:00pm Chemist's  
the 4:30 Come- The Ninth Air 5:00-5:30  
America's Top Time

**WINTER**  
London excepts 1:40pm Wednesday 2:40-  
3:05pm The Family Hour 2:25pm Film Debut  
from Evil 2:00 The H-Man and Haw 4:00

**SAC**  
Saturday 1:00pm The Art of Landscape 7:30  
Townsend Sport 8:00 CA Daily 9:15  
Morning Line 9:25 Sing and Swing 9:30  
Stern Defense 10:00 The Canada Club  
10:30 Free For All 11:00 Tossing 11:30-12  
Remote Control 12:00 Jonathan Ross 12:30-  
3:00 1:00 North Pole Expedition 12:30-  
1:00pm Comedy 3:00 Live Shows 4:00  
Mr. Magoo 5:05pm Brookdale 6:30 Newydd  
6:55pm Cinema 1991 7:50pm Cinema Sound  
ATV Scotland 8:50 Yvonne Chavanne 9:30  
Pamela & Loretta 10:00pm The  
Line of Robert Bly 11:40-1:00 After Dark

**RTT**  
Rate 1:00pm Soundtrack 1:00  
Chase 1:25 News followed by You Stayed  
My Life 2:45 Cinema of the Wild 3:00pm  
8:00pm The Family Hour 8:30pm  
Up 6:00 The Argonauts 6:05pm 6:15  
Mallory 6:40 Theabout 7:05 Star Trek. The  
Next Generation 8:00 Saturday 9:00 News  
in Canada 10:15 Cinema 11:15pm  
Engagement 12:35pm News 11:40 After Dark

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£1m cuts  
to police  
budget  
contested

- 6.45 Open University**  
9.15 *Comedies* (r)  
9.15 *Comedies* (r)  
9.15 *Comedies* (r)  
10.00 *France Actualité*. The second of five films about modern-day France (r). Wales (to 12.05) See You Sunday 10.25 *México Vivo*. An introduction to Mexican Spanish (r) 10.50 *Step Up To The Plate*. For adults who have problems with reading and writing (r). (Ceebs) 11.15 *A Way With Numbers*. Practical maths for adults 11.40 *Bazaar* (r)  
12.05 *See Hear!* Magazine for the deaf and hard-of-hearing  
12.30 *Country File*. Chris Baines reports on the battle to control Northern Ireland's Strangford Lough. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 *Weather*  
1.00 *News* followed by *On The Record*. Jonathan Dimbleby talks to shadow industry secretary, Gordon Brown, about Labour's industrial policies  
2.00 *EastEnders*. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceebs)  
3.00 *Film: One Born Every Minute* (1987). A soldier on the run from the army meets a woman who teaches him the tricks of his trade. The soldier sets off on a new career until he meets the girl of his dreams and falls in love. Lovable and understated comedy with George C. Scott, Michael Sarrazin and Sue Lyon. Directed by Irwin Kershner 4.40 *The Pink Panther Show*. Cartoons  
5.00 *The Clothes Show*. A look at 30 years of new items for the Barbie doll wardrobe and the influence of African ideas on design. Plus ball and chain and clothes for people in their thirties  
5.25 *Antiques Roadshow* from Whitehaven in Cumbria. (Ceebs)  
6.10 *OK! Talk Feelings*. Discussing bereavement. (Ceebs)  
6.20 *News* with Moira Stuart. Weather  
6.35 *News* from Westminster Abbey. (Ceebs)  
7.15 *Brush Strokes*. Tired comedy chiding the successes and failures of an amateur decorator. Starring Karl Howman  
7.45 *Lovely! Rakes the Hippocampus*. Ian McShane as the charming antique dealer, not aware of a little chicanery. When Lovelady discovers that a young man has been murdered after a society wedding, he becomes the unwitting possessor of revealing information. Dudley Sutton as Tinker and Chris Jury as Eric provide the resident support. (Ceebs)  
8.35 *Butterflies*. Carla Lane's perceptive into Seventies sitcom, not as acclaimed as the more recent *Bread*, but of the same quality. *Rite* (Wendy Craig) is ready to break free from her family, but with the rugged ego of husband Ben (Geoffrey Palmer) at stake, her fit to freedom becomes more like a tug-of-war (r). (Ceebs)  
9.10 *News* with Michael Buerk. (Ceebs) Weather  
9.25 *The Life* presented by Esther Rantzen  
10.00 *Mastermind* from the Meeting House Chapel at the University of Sussex. Tonight's specialist subjects are the life and ghost stories of M.R. James; Norman architecture in England 1050-1180; Hollywood films 1930-1950; and Royal Air Force Bomber Command 1939-1945



Debate about the right to live: Nancy Cruzan (10.30pm)

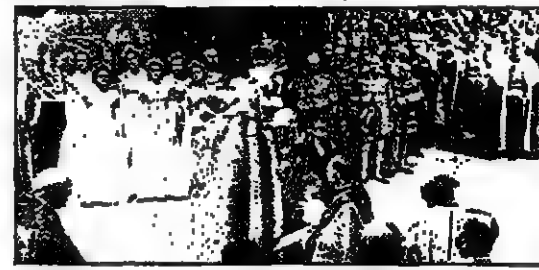
- 10.30 *Heart of the Matter: Come*  
CHOICE: A new series of ethical dilemmas opens with a report from the United States on the right to life and the right to end it. Come victims, people who are killed by the medical profession, to a 'persistent vegetative state', may survive for years but have no control over their functions and not recognise their closest relatives. Joan Bakewell concentrates on one of the most famous cases, that of Nancy Cruzan who was brain damaged in a car crash in 1983. The family decided that the best thing was to help her die. But the Cruzans ran into opposition from a determined lobby in their state's best state of Missouri and finally had to take the matter to the United States Supreme Court. The issue seems less contentious in this country, where 'passive' euthanasia is endorsed by the British Medical Association  
11.05 *The Days And Nights Of Molly Dodd*. American comedy drama  
11.30 *Mosaic: Evidence Unseen*. Are young black Britons being 'criminalised' by the courts?  
12.00 *The Sky At Night*. Patrick Moore explains how the Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft have helped us to learn more about the planet Jupiter and its group of moons  
12.30 *Manhattan*. Episode 38 (r) 1.00 *Weather*

- 6.35 *Open University*  
12.00 *Regional Political Programmes*. Wales: See Heart; Northern Ireland: Situations Vacant  
12.30 *Scripture*. With news from the foreign affairs select committee and the House of Lords committee's discussion on the crime fiction British science. (Ceebs)  
1.00 *An Introduction to Psychology*. Open University programme (r)  
1.25 *Film: Heidi's Song* (1982). Animated musical version of Johanna Spyri's classic book about a lively Swiss girl sent to live with her dour grandfather in the Alps. Featuring songs by Sammy Cahn and Burton Lane, and the voices of Sammy Davis Jr, Lorne Greene and Margery Gray  
3.00 *First Steps*. Revealing film about the trials and tribulations of students from the Royal College of Art and Music, and the English National Ballet School, collaborating on a dramatic contemporary dance piece  
3.30 *From The Heart of The World*. A remarkable documentary in which the exclusive and ancient Kogi tribe of the Colombian rain forest give unprecedented insights into their society (r)  
5.00 *Rugby Special*. Highlights of yesterday's internationals between Wales and England in Dublin and France and Wales in Paris  
6.00 *The Glee*. James inter views the guest is comedian Dave Allen (postponed from last week)  
6.35 *The Money Programme*. Tom Medlock reports on how the TSB is dealing with the changed financial climate of the Nineties  
7.15 *Natural World: Even The Animals Must Be Free*. The conflict between conservation and tourism in Africa's most beautiful reserves is keenly felt by David, a tour guide with a passion for his country's wildlife. The film joins him in Kenya as he explains that the wild animals of Africa must increasingly pay their way in order to survive. As tourists flock to Kenya, the old, wild and free Africa is disappearing. (Ceebs)  
8.05 *Naked Hollywood: Four Million Dollars In Cheap*. Another look into the Hollywood jungle, concentrating on the agents who act as brokers between the stars and the studios. Those interviewed include Sam Chai (who represents Marjorie Strong and Sigourney Weaver) and Ed Limato (Mel Gibson, Richard Gere and Michelle Pfeiffer)  
8.55 *How Are The Kids?* Ezzan Paley, the Martinique-born director who gained a higher profile recently with his first big Hollywood film *A Dry White Season*, wrote and directed this startling film about the tragedy of children in the Third World. A young African woman grieves over her sick child and her young lover haunts the village. (r)  
9.05 *Mikhail Baryshnikov: An Evening at American Ballet Theatre*. Baryshnikov and his ballet company present two contrasting works by great American choreographers. In *Double Exposure* Cunningham used John Cage's music for six dancers; *Le Sacre du Printemps* is George Balanchine's passionate distillation of romanticism, set to music by Vittorio Rieti (r)  
10.00 *Screen Two: The Laughter of God*  
CHOICE: Whatever else might be said about it, Tony Blair's film has the merit of getting straight to the point. In the first five minutes we learn that the seemingly perfect marriage between high-flying architect Peter Firth and his wife Amanda Donohoe is a myth. Each would be happy to see the other dead and is poised to do something about it. Within ten minutes we see both parties engaged in sizzling affairs, he with a red actress and she with an art dealer. Actually each hints of murder are not bad to be getting on with but Blair cannot resist being gruesome as well as being in a third element, the discovery of ancient human remains on a building site. Donohoe confirms that she is one of our most compelling screen presences and Firth presents a frightening story of a man reeling out of control. *The Laughter of God* is always watchable, often unsettling and fairly unbelievable. (C)  
11.30 *Snub*. Innovative music show (r)  
12.00 *Rapido*. Antoine de Caunes meets Michael Penn, brother of actor Sean, and introduces music from English rap bands (r). Ends at 12.30am



An architect of deceit and murder: Peter Firth (10.00pm)

- 6.00 *TV-am* includes, at 7.30 *Frost on Sunday*  
8.25 *The Disney Club*. Early morning fun with John Eccleston, Andrea Borman and Gordon Ingle. Andrea reaches for the stars with the Falcon Cheerleading Squad and John goes scavenging for useful waste-paper. Plus a behind the scenes look at Eurovision in Paris and music from the *James Watson*  
10.45 *Link*. Peter White meets Jane Wollman, the woman who would like to be the first female Archbishop of Canterbury  
11.00 *Morning Worship*. Heaven and Hell is the theme for the Rev Dr John Pokinghome, master of Queens' College, Cambridge, when he talks about our destiny beyond the end of our lives. From the Chapel at Giggleswick School in Yorkshire  
12.00 *Encounter*. It was 1858 when the Virgin Mary was said to have appeared to Bernadette at Lourdes, yet the town continues to attract crowds of pilgrims to this day. Why do they come?  
12.30 *MTV News Weekend*  
1.00 *ITN News* with Nicholas Owen. Weather  
1.15 *Peace In The Gulf* with Brian Weller and Donald MacCormick  
2.00 *Charlie's Angels*. The resourceful, all-women crime-fighting partnership leap into action once again. Starring Kate Jackson, Cheryl Ladd and Jacklyn Smith (r)  
2.55 *The Match*. Elinor Wessely introduces live coverage of a match of sports proportions as Liverpool clash with Arsenal at Anfield, an encounter that could decide the first division championship  
5.05 *Bulseye*. Darts and general knowledge game  
5.35 *Athletics*. Live coverage of the traditional meeting between Great Britain and the United States from Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Leading British athletes taking part include sprinters John Regie and Linford Christie who, with Ade Mafe and Darren Braithwaite, will make an assault on the world indoor 4x200m relay record  
7.05 *News* with Nicholas Owen. Weather 7.10 *LWT News* and weather  
7.15 *Trouble In Mind*. Unpromising situation comedy in which Richard O'Sullivan and Susan Penhaligon star as a psychiatrist and his spirited wife. (Ceebs)  
7.45 *Murder, She Wrote: According to Maggie*. Angela Lansbury stars as the writer who seems to attract crimes as a lamp attracts insects. In this episode, one of her brightest students was a suspect in the murder of her boss. (Ceebs)  
8.40 *News* with Jane Somerville. Weather 8.55 *LWT Weather*  
9.00 *Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Affair at the Victory Ball*. Haydn Gwynne (as Miss Wren) and *Drop The Dead Donkey* plays an action as Hercule Poirot (David Suchet) is called upon to solve a murder at a fancy dress party. With Hugh Fraser and Philip Jackson as the hapless stogies, Captain Hastings and Inspector Japp (Ceebs)  
10.00 *Cool Head*. Phil Cool cracks jokes and pulls faces  
  
Life of a loner: Rudolf Nureyev with Melvyn Bragg (10.30pm)  
10.30 *The South Bank Show: Rudolf Nureyev*  
CHOICE: Chatting to Melvyn Bragg from one of his seven homes, Nureyev opens up about his life. Nureyev confesses to being a loner. Bragg's introduction even compares him with Greta Garbo, although *The South Bank Show* has at least done with Nureyev what nobody managed with Garbo and lured him in front of the cameras. Patricia Foy's film respects Nureyev's desire to keep his private life his own and does not intrude upon it. This is a public portrait, composed mainly by Nureyev himself, with the help of performance clips and the memories of family and colleagues. From Foy's lucidly constructed chronicle, things emerge. One is Nureyev's enormous and apparently instinctive talent, which flourished despite the disapproval of his soldier father, who wanted him to be an engineer or a doctor. The other is a fiercely independent strain which has led to frequent brushes with authority and probably lay behind his momentous decision to defect to the West in 1961  
12.00 *Gold*. Highlights from the Fujitsu Mediterranean open  
1.00 *News* with Nicholas Owen. Weather  
2.00 *New Music*. Magazine programme for rock fans  
3.00 *Pick of the Week*. This week's regional television highlights  
3.30 *Indy Car Racing*. Featuring the Marlboro GP at the Meadowlands  
4.30 *The Lawless Years*. A New York policeman battles against the underworld of the Prohibition era  
5.00 *Wanted - Dead or Alive (D/v)*. Steve McQueen stars as a maverick cowboy hunter Josh Randall (r)  
5.30 *ITN Morning News*. Ends at 6.00

- CHANNEL 4**  
6.00 *Trans World Sport* (r) 7.00 *The Complete Skier*  
7.30 *Dr Snuggles* 8.00 *The Buffers* 8.30 *Bobobobs* 9.00 *Early Bird*  
9.25 *Sargeant Anjel*. Series focusing on Bengali music in its various traditions  
10.00 *A Week In Politics - Second Reading*. Includes a look at John Major's reaction to the end of the Gulf war  
10.45 *Dennis 11.00 Boom!* Magazine series for children (r) 11.30 *Star Test for Inspiral Carpenters* a Clint Boon  
12.00 *The Watsons*. Family saga of American country folk 1.00 *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (D/v)*. Classic Sci-fi underwater sci-fi series  
2.00 *Film: You Can't Take It With You* (1938, b/w). Frank Capra's comedy, which won Oscars for best picture and best director, is a little faded now but still delightfully entertaining. A family of cheery eccentrics headed by Lionel Barrymore do battle with a powerful tycoon (Edward Arnold) who is seeking to take possession of their home to further his property development scheme. With Jean Arthur, James Stewart and Samuel S. Hinds  
4.20 *Windy Day*. Animation by John Hildes about children's fantasies  
4.30 *Citizen 2000: Sisters and Brothers*. Series following the lives of 20 British children who will be 16 in the year 2000. They are now eight years old and able to pass comments on their brothers and sisters. (Teletext)  
5.00 *Scottish Eye: The Inceps Scandal*. The current affairs series with a Scottish slant reports on the misappropriation of the benefits due to long-term mental patients by the hospitals which care for them  
5.30 *Kiersey Actors Kerry Shale and Judy Pascoe* continue their imaginative exploration of the world of comics. (Teletext)  
5.45 *Grim Tales*. Rick Mayall narrates the story of *The Turnip*  
6.00 *Press Gang*. Series about a group of children who run their own newspaper (r). (Ceebs)  
6.30 *The Wonder Years*. American comedy series about a suburban lad growing up in the Sixties and learning the lessons of life  
7.00 *Channel 4 News* and weather  
8.00 *Orchestral Dudley Moore and Sir Georg Solti* conclude their peppy guide to the components of the orchestra. Sir Georg rehearses and conducts a full performance of Richard Strauss's *Don Juan* with the Schleswig Holstein Youth Orchestra  
8.30 *The New Age*. Key Anita hosts a discussion between the 40 guests who have appeared in the series on what New Age philosophy can contribute to our society  
  
Subject to royal copyright: footage of the coronation (8.00pm)  
8.00 *The Media Show: Royalty and Television*  
CHOICE: A punchy report on television's coverage of the royal family suggests that the influence of Richard Dwyer lies hard. Nobody, except perhaps Sir Alastair Burnet, now adopts Dimbleby's obsequious style but "inside" views of the royals still have the blandness of a corporate video. *The Media Show* claims that manipulation of the small screen, by insisting on final approval of what can be shown, is Buckingham Palace's way of restoring images tarnished by the tabloid press. If television companies want to make royal documentaries they have to do so on royal terms. A curious aspect is that the palace retains copyright on royal footage. When Ludovic Kennedy wanted to include a clip from the coronation service in a tribute to Richard Dimbleby he was refused. *The Media Show* had no more success over requests to "royal" from a very inquisitive 1998 documentary, *The Royal Family*  
9.45 *Film: Nightshift*. (1982) A weary city analyst takes a job at a morgue hoping for a bit of peace and quiet. Instead his new colleague involves him in a scheme to set up a prostitution racket from their corpse repository base, and it is not long before organised crime feels threatened by their meddling. Amusing, engaging, and surprisingly fresh. Henry Winkler, Michael Keaton and Sherry Long are all excellent. Ron Howard directs with verve. (Ceebs)  
11.45 *Mothers Behind Bars*. When first shown, this documentary helped convince the British prison authorities to review their policies on child visiting in prison. It describes the ground-breaking work of an American Roman Catholic nun, Sister Elaine, in setting up a project which enables mothers behind bars to sustain relationships with their children rather than have the links severed (r). Ends at 12.45am

- HTV WEST**  
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Business Editor  
John Bell

# BUSINESS

THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 2 1991

## Revlon sale rumours emerge from the powder room

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

LEADING cosmetics and chemicals groups including Anglo Dutch Unilever, Procter & Gamble of America, and L'Oréal of France, the world's largest cosmetics company, are in the market for Revlon, America's second largest cosmetics group. Revlon was bought by Ronald Perleman in an acrimonious \$2 billion takeover in the Eighties and taken private in 1987.

The eventual purchase price could reach more than \$4 billion. But Mr Perleman is under pressure. Analysts say Revlon's cashflow is insufficient to cover \$2 billion of repayments to banks due in the next three years. More pressing is the price of the junk bonds that helped finance the deal. They have fallen to half of their face value recently, reflecting fears of a debt restructuring. One industry executive says

the sale talks are tentative, and could last two to four weeks. Mr Perleman is believed to be in London.

A combined Unilever and Revlon would make Unilever the leader in American women's fragrances and give the combined group enough sales to challenge L'Oréal for dominance of the cosmetics markets.

Unilever made it clear with its figures this week that it needs American acquisitions to redress the 20 per cent fall in North American contributions to group profits.

The company also faces serious competition problems establishing new brand names in America. Unilever has spent more than \$5 billion over the past five years on American acquisitions, its latest being Elizabeth Taylor's Passion, Elizabeth Arden, Fabergé and Calvin Klein. Revlon's leading brands include Chardie, the wom-

en's fragrance, Flex shampoo, and Max Factor cosmetics.

Wall Street wiped more than \$120 million from Unilever's market value as news of the talks emerged yesterday. The shares fell 75 cents to \$53.5 valuing it at almost \$9 billion. However, industry sources say the front-runners remain L'Oréal and P & G, America's largest health products group, selling Oil of Ulay and Cover Girl makeup. P & G is looking towards beauty care products to spur growth among its products dominated by the mature product lines of cleaners and detergents. It recently bought Old Spice, the aftershave.

Industry executives say Revlon has been up for sale for more than two months, but James Conroy, special counsel and vice-president for corporate communications said: "As far as we are concerned we are offering no comment on this story. I

believe Mr Perleman is travelling."

□ The Revlon sale is the latest in a spate of deals which has seen the \$40 billion worldwide cosmetics and toiletries business concentrate in the hands of a few powerful players (Gillian Bowditch writes).

L'Oréal, which owns the Lancôme, Paloma Picasso, Ralph Lauren, Guy Laroche and Vichy brands has been selling it out for the world No. 1 slot with Unilever which owns Rimmel, Timotei, Sunsilk, Elizabeth Taylor's Passion and Bril.

Cosmetics are becoming bigger and bigger business and with a population of mature women prepared to pay upwards of £40 for a jar of the new and controversial generation of "anti-aging" creams, there is no sign of a slowdown in the industry's growth.

In the past five years a number of the top

businesses have changed hands, commanding increasingly high premiums. Any top brand business such as Revlon now has a rarity premium as the world class players fight to gain market share. In July 1989, Unilever bought Elizabeth Arden whose brands include Chloé, Fendi and Lagerfeld, and Fabergé for \$937 million only two weeks after adding Calvin Klein to its stable for £200 million. Unilever bought Rimmel in 1988 for £78 million.

Yardley and Lenthéric, originally part of Beechams, was sold to Wasserstein Perella, the American buyout specialist, for £110 million. L'Oréal bought Helena Rubinstein in 1988. Procter & Gamble catapulted its business into the top league with the acquisition of Richardson-Vicks, which gave it Oil of Ulay, in 1985. Unilever retaliated with the acquisition of Chesebrough-Pond's a year later.

### WEEKEND MONEY

#### Sterling shows his mettle



LORD Sterling of Plaistow, who was ennobled in Margaret Thatcher's resignation honours list, gained the admiration of the City for the way he handled the rescue of Town and City in the Seventies.

Now chairman of P & O, Lord Sterling has walked the corridors of power as a special adviser to the trade department.

But as he recounted to Carol Leonard, he owes everything to his dead father, who struggled his way out of a sweatshop in the East End of London. Page 27

#### Budget target

Offshore trusts are widely expected to be a target in the next Budget. Accountants are advising clients that a loophole allowing Britons to emigrate and dispose of assets without capital gains tax is likely to be closed. Page 30

#### Mortgage cut

National Westminster Bank is to cut its mortgage rate from 14.5 to 13.75 per cent from Monday for new borrowers and from April 1 for existing customers. Barclays and Abbey National and major building societies have already announced reductions. Page 31

#### Credit ruling

Credit applicants who have been turned down unfairly because of where they live could be reassessed after a new ruling. Page 30

#### Sales leads

If the draft Banking Code is approved, banks will be able to search through customers' accounts for sales leads. Page 31

#### BES blows

Business expansion schemes (BES) are trying to recover from the double blow resulting from the demise of Chancery, a major sponsor, and Inno's concern over the claim that BES investments are "guaranteed". Page 32

#### Your views

Banks have grown too impersonal, with bank managers locking themselves away behind steel doors, complains one Weekend Money reader. Another tells of an Alliance & Leicester branch that was too busy to deal with heaps of change from children. Page 34

#### Trading nerves

The euphoria that accompanied the end of war in the Gulf on Thursday evaporated on the International Stock Exchange yesterday. Share prices traded nervously, with the FT-SE 100 index ending at 2,386.9, 6.0 points up. Stock market, page 29

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

#### Rebuilding Kuwait

"A remarkable British unity over rebuilding Kuwait has emerged in the last fortnight. Alarmed by initial reports that Britain was losing out to the Americans, UK plc has been transformed from a nebulous theory into a practical reality." Business - The Sunday Times tomorrow.

## Abbey rises to £582m despite debt provisions

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ABBEY National, the savings and mortgage bank, increased pre-tax profits 16 per cent to £582 million last year, despite a rise in bad debt provisions.

The bank revealed that it had repossessed 5,800 homes last year, and still owns more than 5,000 houses, while 39,000 of its borrowers, 3 per cent of the total, are now more than three months in arrears because of high interest rates.

Sir Campbell Adamson, the chairman, gave warning that the level of repossessions had not yet peaked. The costs of the repossessions forced the bank to provide £55 million against bad debts, up 293 per cent from last year.

Abbey National has 3.7 million shareholders after its 1989 flotation and is the most widely owned company in Europe. The company is paying a final dividend of 6.35p, up 11 per cent, to make 9.3p for the year. Sir Campbell said the bank remained committed to increasing the dividend faster than inflation.

He attributed the results to the policy of concentrating on traditional mortgage and savings business and modest expansion. He said: "I have said that only the fittest would survive in the world of personal financial services. Abbey National has not only survived but has prospered."

Abbey's shares have risen

strongly since the flotation and closed yesterday at 257p, 127p higher than the issue price. Sir Campbell said the rise was gratifying and showed that the market knew that Abbey's costs were low and its balance sheet was clean. "The share price today more than justifies our shareholders' confidence in us," he said.

Pre-tax profits were £81 million higher than in 1989. The increase would have been only £28 million if Abbey had possessed the cash raised from the flotation for the whole of 1989.

Abbey increased its mortgage lending 10 per cent to £4.6 billion but the rate of new lending fell 5 per cent. Despite the rise in interest rates, the bank increased its interest margin from 2.23 per cent to 2.28 per cent.

Retail savings grew £2.6 billion, compared with £1.5 billion in 1989, to reach £29.7 billion.

Sir Campbell said that despite the rise in repossessions, Abbey was still suffering less arrears than many building societies. He said: "We are doing everything we can to provide people with flexible repayment options, with repossessions as a last resort." Abbey's stock of houses has grown from 1,700 at the start of 1990 to more than 5,000, despite the bank's efforts to sell them.

Peter Birch, the chief executive, said: "We try to get rid of the houses as quickly as possible, but it is not that easy." The bank said repossessions had occurred in every sector of the market.

Abbey has 11,600 borrowers with arrears of more than six months, out of a total of 1.3 million. This is half the industry average.

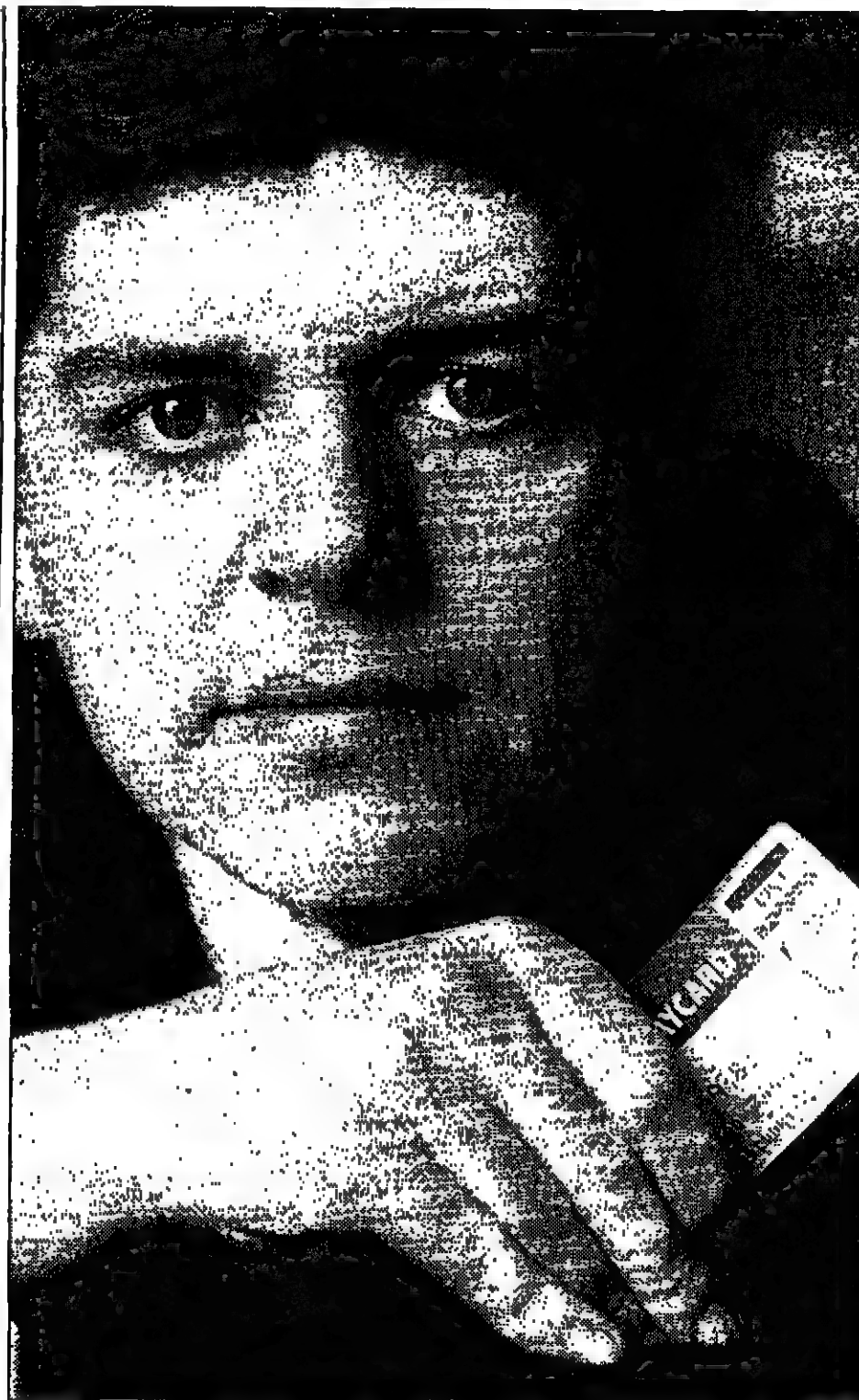
The increased provisions included a £17 million write-off against Abbey's unsecured lending operation, which has loans of only £200 million, and its current account overdrafts of £25 million.

Profits were also hit by a £20 million loss at Cornerstone, Abbey's estate agency chain, and a £24 million loss in its housing development arm. Sir Campbell said the bank remained committed to estate agency. He said: "We feel completely comfortable that when the market turns these losses will turn into profits."

FicoFrance, the French mortgage lender that Abbey bought last year, made a small profit, while Abbey's small operations in Spain and Italy broke even.

Sir Campbell said Abbey was not planning any move into corporate lending despite its full banking licence. He said: "It is not our business. We are going to stick to personal financial services."

Tempos, page 29



Penniless in Majorca: Robert Macrory, who was unable to use his Barclaycard

## Beached in Majorca by inflexible credit card

By LIZ DOLAN

ROBERT Macrory thought his Barclaycard would provide for all his expenses during a fortnight's holiday in Majorca last summer. Instead he says a lack of cash meant he was forced to sleep on the beach and to sell his watch for food.

Mr Macrory says he was left penniless after being unable to withdraw money from cash-point machines and banks in Majorca. "They kept telling me the card was unauthorised, but they couldn't tell me why," Mr Macrory says. "I got so desperate that I rang the international rescue line, who told me to ring Barclaycard in Northampton."

Barclaycard was annoyed because I reversed the charges. But I only had a few pence left. A few hours later, authorisation was re-established and Mr Macrory was able to withdraw cash. "But my holiday was ruined and I came back early," he says. Correspondence with Barclays culminated in a £250 ex-gratia payment from the bank last January.

At that time, Barclays was still unable to explain why Mr Macrory could not use his card. The bank now says the reason was that his card was stolen just before his holiday. His replacement card had the same personal identification number, but a different expiry date, which was why the machines in Spain refused to accept it. Barclays says that two later thefts of Mr Macrory's card hampered attempts to discover what had gone wrong in Majorca.

Mr Macrory says that his card was replaced in October, but because it was lost rather than stolen. He adds that his card may have been lost on another occasion, but he is not certain of this.

## British Gas told to keep price low

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JAMES McKinnon, the director general of gas supply, last night issued an enforcement order compelling British Gas to negotiate a 15-year contract worth tens of millions of pounds at yesterday's prices.

The enforcement order will protect Thames Power, which is planning a 1,000 megawatt power station at Barking, Essex, from a 35 per cent increase in the price of interruptible supplies to large gas users, intended to take effect today. The Office of Gas Supply said there was no justification for the "cynical and exorbitant" increase.

The rise was announced on Thursday. The Thames Power plant is intended to start operation in 1994.

Ofgas said two further enforcement orders might be

issued to protect other power station projects from higher gas charges. The order marked the climax of a vitriolic confrontation between Ofgas and British Gas over an abrupt rise in prices intended to curb demand from new power plants.

Mr McKinnon told British Gas that he believed it had breached its operating licence under the Gas Act 1986. The allegation was vigorously contested.

British Gas said that unless an end, it might not be able to meet its obligation to domestic customers. Mr McKinnon said that to keep within its licence, the company should have adjusted prices at an earlier stage, and by a smaller amount.

## Share fraudsters 'will go to jail'

By MARTIN BARROW

PRIVATE investors tempted to make illegal multiple applications for shares in PowerGen and National Power were warned they will be sent to jail if caught.

The warning was given after a company formation agent from north London was jailed for four months, having pleaded guilty to making dishonest applications for shares in privatisations through 498 off-the-shelf companies.

Privatisation fraud auditors say methods used to identify Gerald Lewis, aged 39, convicted for applying for shares in 1985-7, have been dramatically improved, increasing the chances of conviction.

Lewis used 498 off-the-shelf firms to unlawfully apply for 767,000 shares in Britoil, TSB, British Gas, British Airways, Rolls-Royce and BAA. He was

also fined £50,000 and ordered to pay costs of £5,000.

His partner, Michael Holder, aged 29, who received a quarter of the £86,500 profit, was given a three-month jail sentence, suspended for two years. They believed they had found a loophole in the law. But Judge Patrick Hain said they must have known they were acting dishonestly.

The two men were unmasked by fraud auditors at Touche Ross. They will also police the power generation sale, using "fuzzy-matching". Touche will use the next generation of fuzzy-matching techniques, which analyses each application in greater detail, for example, questioning the number of dependents claimed by investors.

Power sale, page 29

## Battle joined over island idyll

By MATTHEW BOND

BEING a Scottish laird is not easy, as Malcolm Poter will attest.

Two years ago, Mr Poter, aged 39, a Kent property millionaire, realised an eight-year-old dream by buying the Isle of Gigha, a six-mile-long island off the Mull of Kintyre, complete with its own title, Baron of Gigha.

Gigha is the stuff of dreams, being best known for the rhododendron and subtropical garden created by a previous owner, Sir James Horlick, whose horticultural efforts were assisted by the benign influence of the passing Gulf Stream. Gardens apart, it has 150 inhabitants, one main road, a hotel, eight farms and a fish farm. As an escape from modern life, Gigha takes a lot of beating.

In the current economic climate, however, holding on to a dream is no easy matter, as thousands of proud

houseowners in Britain have discovered. Next week, Mr Poter goes to the High Court in England and the Court of Session in Scotland to ensure that Gigha remains the property of Tanap Investments, the private company that bought the island for more than £5 million.

Opposing him will be Interalliance Bank of Zurich, which, until Mr Poter obtained a court order against it, had appointed a "hereditary creditor" to market the island. As a result of the injunctions successfully obtained by Mr Poter, Interalliance had "absolutely no comment" to make yesterday about the possible sale of Gigha.

Nor indeed has Savills, the estate agent that handled the sale of the island to Tanap in 1989 and which has now been linked to the island again. "We have no comment to make," said a spokesman.

Mr Poter is not so constrained. He described the legal action as "a bit of a

fuss between ourselves and the bank". But he was adamant Gigha would remain his.

He said: "The bank has absolutely no authority whatsoever to be instructing a sale. It is not their property. It is ours."

Since Mr Poter's company bought Gigha from David Langdale, money has been ploughed into the island. More than half a million pounds is thought to have been spent on the main house alone, mostly involving furnishings costs. More money is being spent on improving the island's economy, by expanding and upgrading the hotel and improving the quality of the fish farm.

Unlike many other owners of Scottish islands, Mr Poter has been far from reclusive. A number of newspaper interviews provide evidence of his enthusiasm for the island and its inhabitants. Mr Poter will not be giving it up without the fiercest of legal battles.

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\* (Yield estimated annualised yield, after deduction of charges, as at 28.2.91)

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Fidelity Investments



Denotes latest trading price

The draft drive threatens the flexibility and speed with which the non-statutory takeover panel operates and could lead to court involvement. Though prepared to accept a "framework" directive, which would leave member states free to draw up rules, Mr Calcutt stated details had unfortunately been included in the draft. Mr Kent

said that on advice of the company's broker, it was decided to postpone publication until March 21. The decision to delay was taken before the war.

Mr Klein said: "More people are interested in the current and forward looking picture than in historic results. Had we published as planned, we could not reasonably have given shareholders any real

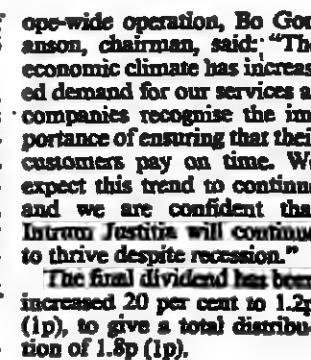
**Howard Klein, chairman,** said that on advice of the company's broker, it was decided to postpone publication until March 21. The decision to delay was taken before the war.

Klein said: "More people are interested in the picture than ever before, and forward booking is at a historic rate. Had we published as planned, we could not reasonably have given shareholders any real picture of the picture."

**Klein: up-to-date picture**—indication of current trading. Now with a later publication date planned, we can give an up-to-date picture."

Owners Alford said that since the end of the war, public interest in bookings had picked up significantly.

The shares yesterday traded at \$20.00 up 40.



THE International Stock Exchange is to investigate complaints that share prices were manipulated during the ten-minute period when monthly option contracts on the FT-SE 100 share index expired on Thursday.

The index suddenly rose sharply from 11.10am and 11.20am, the period during which it is calculated for the purposes of the option contracts, then quickly subsided.

The London Traded Options market has declared Thursday's index calculation provisional, pending the investigation.

Refunds proposed after an inquiry into complaints last year will only apply when options and futures contracts expire together, not to the normal monthly options contract.

**THE upturn in money-supply growth appears to have continued in February.** Weakly Bank of England calculations of notes in circulation suggest that the main component of the narrow measure of money supply, M0, is likely to have risen by 1.4 per cent after seasonal adjustments.

This follows increases of 0.5 and 0.6 per cent in December and January respectively. The projected February figure suggests money supply has been growing faster than expected over the winter.

The annualised rate of growth of M0 over the three months to February would be more than 6 per cent. This compares with an annualised fall in M0 over the three months to November. Cash movements at Christmas are subject to heavy seasonal adjustments that can produce distortions.

The annual growth of narrow money would, however, fall back to 3.1 per cent in February, comfortably within the 1-5 per cent target.

Simon Briscoe of Midland Montagu said: "This would be no barrier to further easing of policy. The rapid rates of fall in money supply growth have come to an end, but the news is still good."

Final money-supply figures for January confirm the upward bias: the annual growth of M0 to 3.5 per cent. The rise in bank and building society lending is put at £3.2 billion, against a preliminary estimate of £3.1 billion. The widest measure, including bank and building society deposits, M4, grew 11.2 per cent, revised from 11.1 per cent.

Bob Jordan has resigned as a director of Foseco, the speciality chemicals company that was taken over by Burmah Castrol in 1990. He was formerly managing director.

The Interim Report will be sent by mail to registered shareholders at their registered addresses on 11 March 1991 and will be made available to holders of depositary receipts and the public at the offices of Schroder Investment Management Limited, 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS.

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS			
First Dealings February 18	Last Dealings March 1	Last Dealings May 20	For Settlement June 10
Call options were taken out on: 1/8/91 Apple Corp., Glaxo Inc., Buzzi, Christie Int'l, Crayco, Danbury Corp., Dares Electronics, Ferrante, Hixdown, Ipirnia West, Midland & Scottish, Mexco, Over Rise, Premier Cons Oil, Ralston, Reaults & Gussard, Trolinger House, Tunkler Res.			

The Interim Report will be mailed to registered shareholders at their registered addresses on 18 March 1991 and will be made available to holders of depository receipts and the public at the offices of Schroder Investment Management Limited, 33 Guter Lane, London EC2V 8AS



# How father's footsteps led an East End boy to corridors of power

## BUSINESS PROFILE

By CAROL LEONARD

### Lord Sterling of Plaistow

Picture the scene. Lord Sterling of Plaistow, the chairman of P&O, is working the room at a social function. Tall, fit, handsome and somehow just a little too smartly dressed, one finds one's eyes following him everywhere. He is one of dozens of captains of industry at the same gathering and yet there is something that makes him stand out from the crowd.

He looks supremely confident, exceptionally polished, but just a little unreal. Words like detached, aloof and distant spring to mind. He does not seem to be talking to anybody, just strutting around. Perhaps purposefully, perhaps aimlessly. It is as if he is not really there at all.

Lord Sterling, aged 56, admits that he likes to play the voyeur, to stand back and observe people and things. But this time round the observer is himself being observed.

There are countless stories about him dating showgirls in his youth, draping milk coats over their shoulders, driving them round town in an open top Rolls-Royce with his dog on the back seat, and then taking the coats away with him at the end of the evening. With the embellishments that inevitably arise when stories are confidently retold, it conjures a scene straight out of *Showboat*. But these tales are mostly told by him, partly ridiculing him, partly jealous, and wholly fascinated.

For there is an undeniable air of mystery about Lord Sterling that makes him fascinating to men and women alike. It stems from that detachment. He never allows anyone to get too close. As a result, there is also a great deal of misunderstanding.

Contemporaries, chairmen of other publicly quoted companies who have known him for 20 or 30 years, really do not know him at all. King them up to talk about him and they supply a list of questions instead, things they would like to find out. When pressed they will mention words like cold, buttoned up, unemotional, dispassionate. Those who know him slightly better refer to his nervousness and insecurity, which stems, they always add, after a momentary pause, from being Jewish.

These allegations, although many are far from accurate, are, once again, backed by stories. Of Lord Sterling buying a bowler hat for a television interview to cover his bald patch. Of him having elocution lessons and of his acute embarrassment when he was "found out". The reality of the situation is that Lord Sterling was for many years one of the most eligible bachelors in London.

Like so many successful Jewish businessmen, he was spotted as having potential by Sir Isaac Wolfson, of Great Universal Stores, who gave him a seat on the board of General Guarantee Corporation.

Another in the Wolfson galaxy of rising stars at the time was David Young, who was to form his own successful property company. Much later, as Lord Young, he recommended Jeffrey Sterling to replace him as special adviser to the trade department.

He formed Sterling Guarantee Trust in the mid-Sixties. Its nucleus was a hand-picked group of bright young men who developed an eye for spotting troubled companies that were rich in property assets.

SGT became, like its chairman, a rising star in the City. But his business reputation, before boarding P&O, was made through the long and painful rescue of a sprawling, badly financed property company, Town and City. When fringe bankers began to go bust during the mid-Seventies, triggering a collapse in property values, Sterling Guarantee Trust was in a far more robust condition than most of its rivals. Its cautious chairman avoided the excesses of deficit financing that laid

many companies low. The then Jeffrey Sterling took the reins at Town and City at a time when its biggest creditors, the Prudential and Barclays Bank, plus the Bank of England, were all terrified of a collapse. He was usually cast as a white knight in the rescue of T&C. But Sterling Guarantee Trust was itself a creditor through the sale of a number of properties and was in turn threatened by T&C's problems.

By acclaim though, Lord Sterling, with the strong support of the Bank of England, succeeded against heavy odds in saving Town and City. During the six years it took, he won the admiration, and frequently the gratitude, of City institutions and bankers.

In 1985, he merged SGT with P&O, a company now capitalised at almost £3 billion, and became its chairman. His personal stake is worth about £450,000 a year. He successfully fought off a hostile takeover bid by Trafalgar House, the rival shipping group, fighting his corner against Sir Nigel Brookes, a man not easily thwarted.

Lord Sterling might like to play the part of a wallflower but he is not a shrinking violet. If he played football as a boy, it was on the condition that he was captain of the team. A talented violinist, he learned to play at the age of nine and studied the instrument for two years at the Guildford School of Music and Drama. But he was not by nature a solo performer. Although he is attracted to it, he does not enjoy being under the glare of a spotlight.

He admits that he was always "extremely nervous" before and during a performance. To this day if he has to speak in public he will cling to the edge of the table with his fingernails. He demonstrates with upturned hands.

"If you are really a shy person, you spend your life overcoming it, but it never really changes. If there are two girls sat at a bar there is always one chap in the group who will say, 'Leave it to me', and will go up and put his arms around them. I'd rather die."

presumably aimless rather than purposeful. Ask him about that insecurity that others refer to and, curiously, Lord Sterling immediately mentions his religion. Brought up by semi-orthodox parents of Russian, Romanian and Polish origin, the family name was originally Steinberg.

"It was changed in the Twenties by either my grandfather or father," says Lord Sterling with surprising vagueness, but without hesitation. And to explain its link with insecurity he adds: "The reason why so many Jews in percentage terms succeed in music, the arts or business is so that they can drive on out of insecurity. The only way you become secure is to create your independence."

Yet Lord Sterling's own performance at school was, he says, "mediocre, run of the mill". Born in Whitechapel, in London's East End, he moved with his family to Surrey during the war and, although it was a happy childhood, he did not enjoy school.

"They were certainly not the happiest days of my life. I found it very confining." He excelled, however, on the rugby pitch and the athletic field.

probably be on the sports field." He continued to train as a sprinter and long jumper after he left school - Reigate Grammar and Preston Manor County - with Finchley Harriers and then in the RAF during his national service. "I did it dead seriously. From the age of 16 I was taken in hand by a former chief Olympic coach and people like that. I was fast."

Everything Lord Sterling does is done seriously. "I am very single minded. If I want to go out and win, I go straight for it."

As for emotion and passion, he admits that one has to look hard to see it, but it is there. After the Zeebrugge disaster he walked through the morgue. "I have never experienced anything like that before. It made me break down. And then when the press had a go and said I didn't care, I was so angry I felt like hitting someone, if you can understand that." He was once, at about that time, found in tears in his office.

Yet he is aware that to the outside world he can appear cold and clinical. "When my father died, about eight years ago, I was like stone at the funeral. Everyone noticed it, even though they knew how close we had been. I went around shaking everyone by the hand, perfectly in control. It hit me about three weeks later, when I was with my brother."

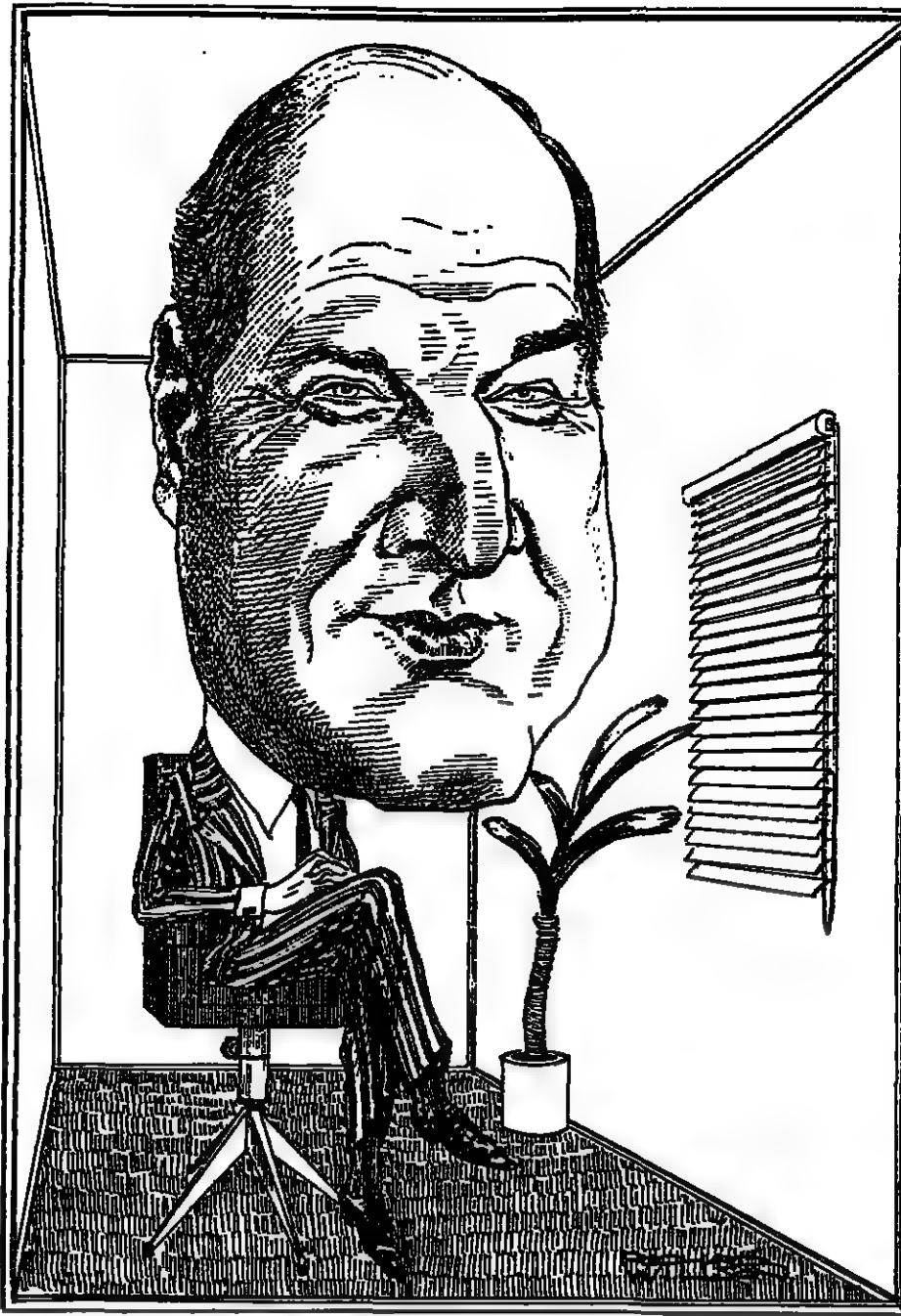
Lord Sterling defends his behaviour. "I'm always doubtful about people who are public about their passion. If I feel passionate about something, then it's something particularly private. The occasional woman might make me feel passionate, my brother might. But I would be surprised and highly embarrassed if anyone could talk to would be aware of what I felt passionate about." And he is, of course, absolutely right.

The middle-born of three children, he remains close to both his sister and his brother. It was, however, his father, Harry, who was his closest friend and greatest influence. Raised in what Lord Sterling describes as a semi-orphanage, Sterling senior worked for himself all his life except for a few months in an East End sweatshop at the age of 16.

"He eventually went into partnership and ended up running a publicly-quoted company, Sterling and Michaels, which had entertainment interests around the coast in the Fifties and Sixties."

Lord Sterling still misses his father. One of his greatest regrets is that he did not live to see his son's peerage, knighthood, chairmanship of P&O or even meet his daughter, Anna, now aged seven.

"It would have been a great pleasure for him to have known Anna. But, on the other hand, one feels he has been able to share what has happened. Much of it is due to him. Even the title I have now, if you want, is doing honour to his name. If it hadn't been for



the way he had set the path, I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing now."

His father would also have been proud of his son's mounting political influence. As an adviser to the trade department, Lord Sterling did, after all, survive seven successive secretaries of state. He finally stood down at the end of last year.

Still bound by the Official Secrets Act and awarded his peerage in Margaret Thatcher's resignation honours list, Lord Sterling is quick to deny that his Whitehall associations gave him political influence. Now a generous contributor to Conservative party funds, he used to vote Liberal.

He is open about his enjoyment of this work. "To sit in the Cabinet room taking part in conversation, of course there is a sense of being in the corridors of power. Of course,

it is exciting. I was not a politician, nor a political adviser; my answers were always from a commonsensical point of view."

Lord Sterling seems anxious to play down his "close friendship" with Mrs Thatcher. "I knew her well but was never as close as people thought. I only called her Margaret for the first time after she stood down. It was always exaggerated about us being close friends. But I have always had tremendous respect for her. I think she is an extraordinary woman."

The one area where Lord Sterling is not so frank is his private life, which he is adamant he will not discuss in any "on the record" way. There are countless newspaper cuttings on the subject, from gossip columns galore. Al-

though it is generally accepted he is not by nature a philanthropist, his love life has been extraordinarily complicated. Even Lord Sterling agrees.

In short, there are two women in his life. One, Dorothy, his former secretary and the mother of his child, whom he married six years ago; the other, a woman he loves dearly, but has agreed, for the past year, not to see. He admits that this has been difficult, and gives the impression that the issue has not yet been resolved.

Just as he is nervous of letting himself go during a violin concert, or on a public speaking platform, so he is terrified of becoming personally involved.

"To lay yourself open to someone like that, so that they could tear you up into little pieces, requires an enormous amount of trust," he says.

## Business chiefs to lead share campaign

By COLIN NARBROUGH

TWO of corporate Britain's leading names plan by the summer to set up an organisation to spread share ownership wider than at present.

Sir John Harvey-Jones, president of the Wider Share Ownership Council and former ICI chairman, and Sir Peter Thompson, chairman of NFC, have spent about two months working on the project, which has the backing of the International Stock Exchange and companies, Peter Davis, the WSOC director, said.

Addressing the last day of the National Association of Pension Funds conference in Eastbourne, Mr Davis said the WSOC would be absorbed by the larger organisation, which would educate the public about investing in stocks and shares, even taking the cause into schools.

Mr Davis acknowledged that the number of shareholders had been boosted dramatically in the Eighties to about 11 million this year, encouraged by the big privatisation issues. Only a small core of shareholders, estimated in the City at fewer than 500,000, can be regarded, however, as long-term shareholders.

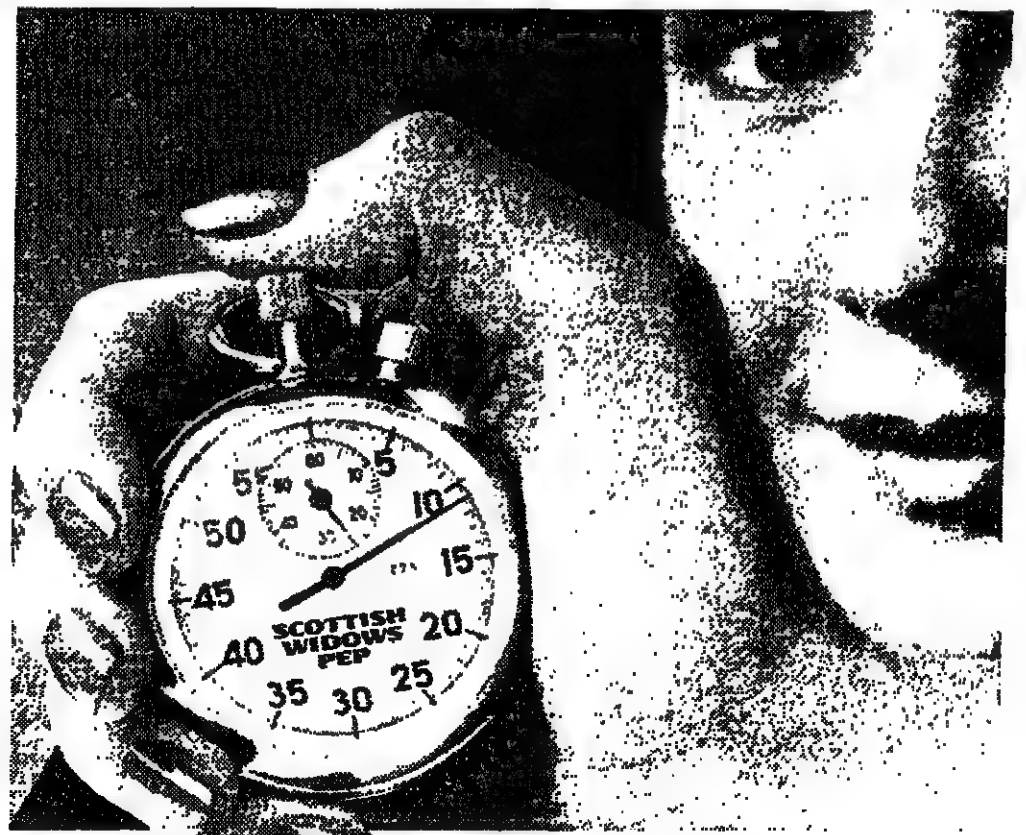
He said most shareholders only have shares in one or two companies and tend to regard them as "sophisticated gambles". Private shareholders hold only about 20 per cent of total shares in terms of market capitalisation, against 38 per cent in the late Seventies.

Mr Davis said the new organisation, which follows recommendations by a Confederation of British Industry task force, would try to ensure people had enough knowledge to take advantage of the "appetisers" privatisation issues provided. He underlined the need to make investors long-term shareholders, deepening and widening their involvement in securities.

Mr Davis saw wider share ownership having "come of age", with greater interest in encouraging small investors to hold shares than before. Tax incentives and steps to make share dealing less expensive will be some of the other objectives of the body. About £1 million is being raised to set up the organisation.

Mr Davis said a key message will be that there are benefits and dangers in investing in shares.

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Ross, which will announce its results and a second interim dividend of 0.75p on Tuesday, restructured via a rescue rights issue that raised £1.2 million in October 1989.

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## Global soars to £5m

By MATTHEW BOND

GLOBAL Group, a former meat products company, has returned to the dividend list after an 860 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £5 million last year.

Global is paying a final dividend, of 0.5p, for the first time in two years. The dividend is the first return for the consortium put together to rescue the company in 1989 by Michael Shafran, a former stockbroker and now Global's joint chairman. Mr Shafran and his partners injected £4.2 million into Global in 1989.

The group's takeover of the EIC private shipping and cargo company, for £12.5 million, transformed its profitability.

Its core meat business was running at a loss of £2.6 million a year before Mr Shafran's rescue. EIC was making profits of close to £1 million. EIC's profitability has been further enhanced by the abolition of the National Dock Labour Scheme.

According to Robert Evans, Global's chief executive, EIC is the only cargo company that offers an integrated cargo-handling service from Hull, Immingham, Grimsby and Goole, the Humber's main ports. The group owns 255 acres at Goole, where it plans a business park.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### UBS profits slide 9% but dividend is held

UNION Bank of Switzerland suffered a fall of 9.3 per cent in net profits last year to SF896.7 million (£354 million). But the dividend will be held at Fr135 on each bearer share, Fr27 on each register share and Fr5.40 on each participation certificate because of "a positive outlook" for this year.

No figures for the Phillips and Drew stockbroking and fund management businesses in London are available. But UBS made it clear that asset management in London performed well and equity losses were contained to significantly below £10 million. However, a provision against a holding of 6 million shares in Polly Peck has been charged separately against group profits. The London corporate finance arm almost broke even.

### Tor Trust income rises

TOR Investment Trust reports pre-tax revenue ahead from £922,000 to £988,000 for the six months to end-January. The net asset value stood at 963.5p (£12.32) per capital share. Earnings per income share rose from 16.87p to 18.01p. There is a second interim dividend of 9.5p per income share, making 19p (16p) so far for the current year.

### Unigroup lifts profit

PRE-TAX profits at Unigroup, the timber, building products and clothing group, advanced to £708,000 (£527,000) in the six months to end-December. Turnover climbed to £11.1 million (£10.3 million).

Timber products produced the bulk of earnings, despite profits dipping to £543,000 (£583,000), on turnover down to £4.81 million (£5.28 million). Earnings per share rose to 1.9p (1.3p). The shares, which firmed 3p ahead of the results, remained 20p. Again, there is no interim dividend.

## Reverse takeover by Ross

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

ROSS Group, the packaging and consumer electronics company quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, is making a reverse takeover of Whittington, the ailing greetings cards and giftware manufacturer.

After the deal, which values Ross at £16.9 million, Ross shareholders will control 91 per cent of Whittington and the electronics group will receive a main market listing.

The deal takes the form of a recommended offer by Whittington for Ross on the basis of 19 new Whittington ordinary shares for each Ross share. Irrevocable undertakings have been made for 52.1 per cent of Ross. Whittington will change its name to Ross and Whittington's directors will resign.

In addition, Whittington is selling Maccel Greetings, its main trading subsidiary, to its management for £7.4 million and also Cooper Ludlam, a cutlery manufacturer, to its management for £650,000. Ross intends to keep the Images and Editions greeting card subsidiary of Whittington.

Ross, which will announce its results and a second interim dividend of 0.75p on Tuesday, restructured via a rescue rights issue that raised £1.2 million in October 1989.



## Portfolio

### PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Coin
1	Whitbread Plc	Breweries	10p
2	Norfolk Wm	Food	10p
3	Edmond Higgs	Building, Roads	10p
4	SEI	Textiles	10p
5	Rank	Industrial L-R	10p
6	Decca Group	Drugs, Stores	10p
7	Exxon	Industrial E-K	10p
8	Coca-Cola	Industrial A-D	10p
9	British Telecom	Telecom	10p
10	Hayward Williams	Building, Roads	10p
11	Hampton Ltd	Industrial E-K	10p
12	Chamberlain & Hall	Industrial A-D	10p
13	Agro Corp	Food, Farm, Agri	10p
14	Park Foods	Food	10p
15	Yorkshire TV	Media	10p
16	Castrol	Oil, Gas	10p
17	Rail Elect	Electricals	10p
18	Northumbrian	Water	10p
19	Vesta Group	Breweries	10p
20	Woolworth	Industrial S-Z	10p
21	Auto Set	Electricals	10p
22	TV-AM	Media	10p
23	Bosch	Industrial A-D	10p
24	Powergen	Industrial L-R	10p
25	Williams Higgs	Industrial S-Z	10p
26	Marshall Repco	Chemicals	10p
27	Lo Service	Motor, Transport	10p
28	NSM	Building, Roads	10p
29	Howden	Industrial E-K	10p
30	TSB	Bank, Discount	10p
31	Woodside	Oil, Gas	10p
32	Low (Wm)	Food	10p
33	TIT Europe	Transport	10p
34	Ellard	Industrial E-K	10p
35	The Rank	Drugs, Stores	10p
36	Triglo Lloyd	Industrial S-Z	10p
37	Calsonic	Automotive	10p
38	British	Industrial A-D	10p
39	API	Food, Farm, Agri	10p
40	Decca Group	Drugs, Stores	10p
41	Rank	Industrial L-R	10p
42	Duclos	Industrial A-D	10p
43	Brent Choice	Chemicals, Plastics	10p
44	Ash & Lacy	Industrial A-D	10p

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £2,000 in today's newspaper.						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £4,000 will be added to Monday's competition.

### BRITISH FUNDS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### UNDATED

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### INDEX LINKED

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares edge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 25. Dealings end March 8. Settlement day March 11. Settlement day March 18.  
\$Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### BREWERIES

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### BUILDING, ROADS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### ELECTRICITY

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### FINANCE, LAND

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### FOODS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### DRAPERY, STORES

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### HOTELS, CATERERS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### INDUSTRIALS A-D

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### ELECTRICALS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### INSURANCE

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### LEISURE

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### MINING

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### OIL, GAS

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### PROPERTY

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### SHOES, LEATHER

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### TEXTILES

1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980

### TOBACCO

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### WATER

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### WATER







## Teaching investors to self-protect

By April, the Financial Services Act will have been in force for three years. Now is a good time to assess how far it has helped provide better investment protection. Overall, it has been a qualified success, but perhaps too much was promised over too short a time. As a colleague recently suggested, "we have tried to move from the era of a horse and cart to a Concorde in one go, with predictable results". Sadly, too much was expected too soon, leading to some disappointments. But perhaps, as Churchill said in different circumstances, "we are at the end of the beginning" and we can now review what deficiencies there have been and seek to strengthen the regulatory system in the consumer interest.

I am concerned, as the chief executive with the largest membership of any self-regulatory body, to carry on improving investor protection. Not only is this right in the public interest, but it makes good commercial sense for our members. They know that good professional advice leads to satisfied customers, repeat business and new

introductions. Bad advice is soon rumoured and, apart from being a breach of our rules, is the quickest way to lose a good client.

By definition, all my members are independent financial advisers (IFAs), but the Act has failed to explain to the public the difference between dealing with an IFA or a tied agent (or a company representative). I am satisfied there is only one way to obtain the best financial advice, and that is to go to an IFA (often displaying a Fimbra logo). He or she has an obligation not only to identify the most suitable investment for your needs, but to identify the best product available. I know this is in the best interest of the public as I have tested the system on two occasions, with IFAs helping me identify much better annuities for an aged aunt than I had identified by writing direct to a number of insurance companies.

Tied agents and company representatives, however, do not



### COMMENT

GODFREY JILLINGS  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF FIMBRA

have to advise the public about the best products within the complete range. It is assumed in the legislation (wrongly in my view) that the public understand that a tied agent only has an obligation to sell the best product he has from within a single company product range, which is often limited in scope and competitiveness. It is most unlikely, for instance, that a tied agent would recommend a company share option scheme linked to a save-as-you-earn contract. And how often will a tied agent recommend that a customer go to an independent adviser (as required by the law). This cannot be in the public interest and is a major

failure of the Act. Even more unsatisfactory is that the Act has made it more commercially attractive for many advisers to switch from being IFAs to tied agents. In the consumer interest, the very reverse should be encouraged. On mainland Europe, where the independent financial sector is too limited to stimulate effective competition, term assurance costs about three times as much in most countries. This shows why independent financial advice in the UK needs to be encouraged to keep the competitive bite. Another problem is that the proposed insurance commission disclosure arrangements, through lack of in-

vestment education, could discourage the public from taking out suitable investment protection and savings policies. Most regulators and consumer protection groups acknowledge that insurance has to be sold not bought, but this is not necessarily reflected in the terms of reference within which the Office of Fair Trading sometimes has to operate.

I am concerned that the compensation scheme set up under the Act may have led some investors to feel safer than they should. Professor Gower, in his original report on investor protection, on which the Act is based, said: "Regulation should be no greater than is necessary to protect reasonable people from being made fools of." But the Act encourages people to take risks, while fraud would often be much more difficult with more public vigilance. We should all know that an offer of an above average return entails above average

risks. I do not want the public not to be compensated, but wonder whether, if investors knew they were only going to be compensated for 90 per cent of their investment up to £50,000, rather than 100 per cent of the first £30,000, and 90 per cent of the next £20,000, they would be as careful with the selection of their investment adviser as they probably are with a new car. We need better public investment education.

Fimbra has been at the cutting edge of the Act; it has been an invaluable experience. Checks have been made on all membership and all those registered. Many who were not considered to be fit and proper have been excluded from the independent sector. We must protect the public from likely risks and I have no hesitation in claiming the professional achievement of my Fimbra team, as professional regulators, in the public interest. Fimbra, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association is the watchdog for independent advisers set up under the Financial Services Act.

Chancellor likely to resurrect proposals to clamp down on tax avoidance, reports Lindsay Cook, Money Editor

## Budget may close offshore loopholes

OFFSHORE trusts, a favourite way for wealthy British people to avoid tax, may be on the way out. With them could go the tax loophole that allows those leaving the country temporarily to sell assets without incurring any tax bills.

Leading firms of accountants are advising clients to act ahead of this month's Budget if they want to be certain of escaping from the clutches of the Inland Revenue. The changes are expected in the wake of newspaper criticism of wealthy people using offshore trusts or settlements to avoid paying any capital gains tax. These devices are estimated to be costing the Inland Revenue £1 billion a year.

Since 1981, people have been able to avoid paying tax on UK-based assets held in offshore trusts. A review of trusts was begun in June 1988, and, last October, the Inland Revenue said "a further announcement" would be made in due course. It is also two years since the government abandoned its last attempt to reform the tax system for people working and retiring abroad.

On the day of the 1989 Budget, Norman Lamont, who was then Financial Secretary to the Treasury, an-

nounced that proposals made in a consultative document were being shelved. This followed strong criticism of the plan to tax foreigners living in Britain for more than seven years and receiving income from abroad on the same basis as British taxpayers.

However, Mr Lamont, now the Chancellor, said at the time that some of the measures were likely to be resurrected. This was understood to refer to proposals to stop Britons being able to avoid tax bills by emigrating for relatively short periods.

A loophole allows Britons to emigrate and dispose of their assets the following day without incurring any liability to capital gains tax if they work out of the country for a full tax year. Those who retire abroad must stay away for at least three years to escape.

The savings can be substantial, with a capital gains tax rate of 40 per cent when assets such as family businesses are disposed of. The owners can, however, return to Britain for visits totalling 90 days during the year. Changes in the rules governing how much time expatriates can spend in Britain without incurring tax bills, are also considered likely.

The Inland Revenue started

becoming tough last year with the British holders of personalised offshore bonds earning gross interest. Next month's tax returns will, for the first time, make it clear that such interest earned by British investors is subject to annual income tax even if it is rolled-up in the bond. These have always been subject to yearly assessment, says the Revenue.

The offshore arms of major British insurance companies, however, had sold them to British residents on the stated understanding that no tax would be due if the interest was rolled-up offshore.

Tax investigators asked the insurance companies last year to supply the names of all their policyholders and are now pursuing them through the British brokers who sold the bonds. Some of the investors could face substantial tax bills dating back more than ten years. The insurance companies estimate that £100 million is invested in the bonds.

Ian Luder, of Arthur Andersen, the accountant, predicts legislation to put an end to other tax evasion abroad. "I would expect there will be an end to offshore settlements and the government will stop people escaping for 12 months or 3 years to avoid capital gains tax."

Martin McLeish, of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountant, said: "The government may decide to stop people being able to get away with blatant tax avoidance."

"My feeling is that they may well bring in legislation specifically targeted at aspects that get up their nose. One of these is the substantial sums of capital gains tax that are lost when people emigrate to tax havens and then sell the family company. It is worth it to them to spend a year or two in the Channel Islands if it saves tax at 40 per cent."

Currently, it is possible for expatriates to avoid UK tax bills if they count their days in Britain carefully. It is possible to spend up to 183 days in any one year without incurring a tax liability, so long as the average period does not exceed 90 days a year. Traveling days are not counted in such calculations, so anyone staying in Britain from Monday to Friday would only have to count Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday towards their

90 or 183 days. These rules date back to the days before international air travel.

By careful timing, large sums of tax can be saved. Dave Clark, the Sixties pop star, defeated the Inland Revenue in the High Court in 1985. The Revenue wanted to tax him on American earnings of £265,000 in 1978-9. It maintained that he moved to Los Angeles for a year to avoid paying tax on the money. But the court ruled that residence

*'I would expect the government will stop people escaping to avoid capital gains tax'*

abroad for a particular period was no less residence abroad because the main reason was tax avoidance.

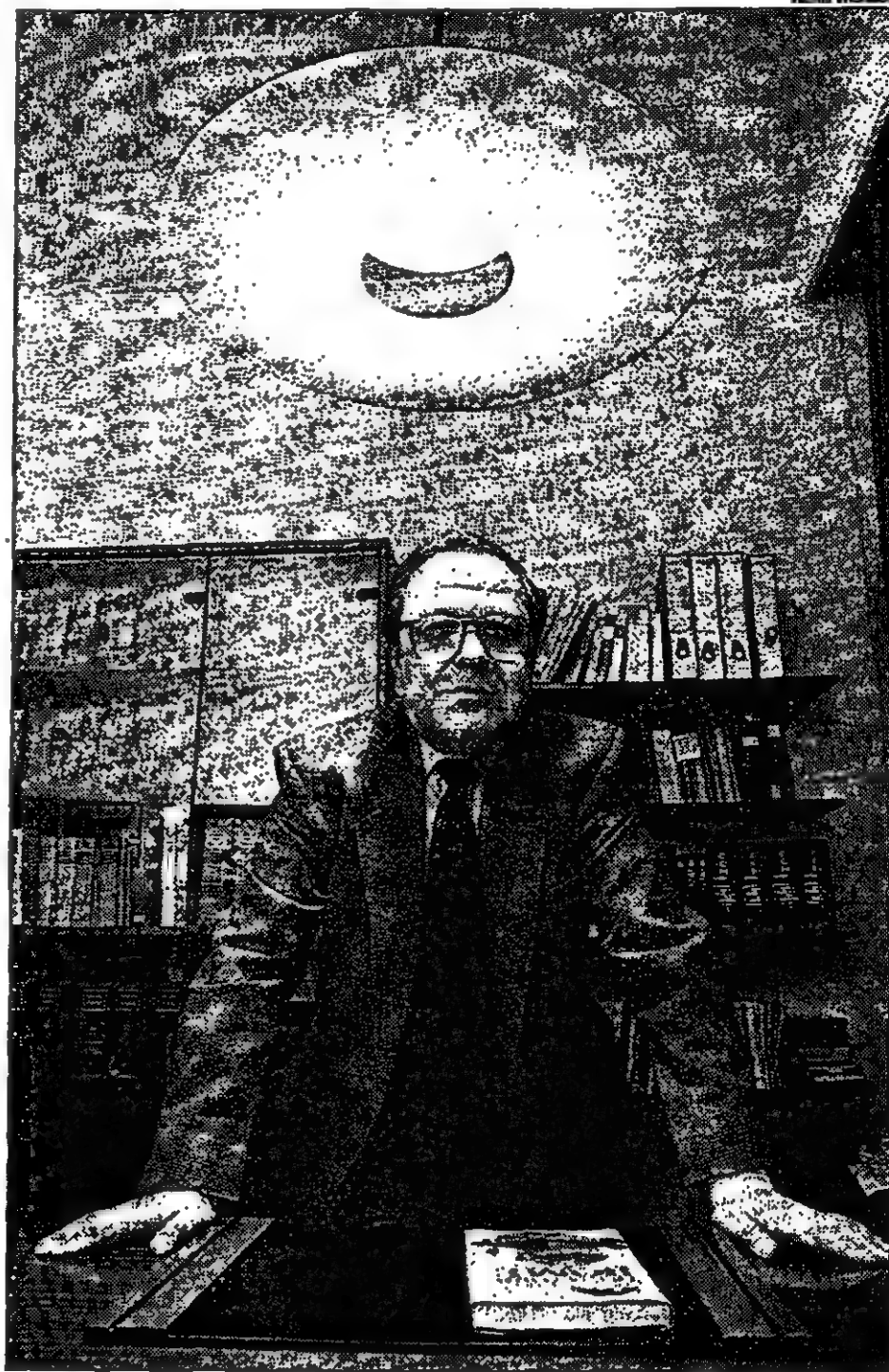
David Rothberg, of Bick Rothberg, the accountant, said there is currently increased activity in setting up trusts and taking advantage of lower tax charges offered by existing trusts.

Clients who have set up "freezer" trusts in the past few years are transferring them offshore. These trusts freeze the value of assets to fix the capital gains liability, which becomes due when the trust is moved offshore but at the lower value fixed years earlier.

"People are particularly looking at whether they want to export these trusts now as they realise they may not be able to do so later. It is a matter of whether they can find the cash to pay the capital gains tax bill now or not," Mr Rothberg said.

There would be greater activity but for the recession. This has reduced the value of the assets in some cases and in others reduced the willingness to pay a capital gains tax bill now, he said.

Any change is expected to put an immediate end to the tax benefits of such trusts. Also in jeopardy is the gener-



Increased activity: David Rothberg's clients have been transferring trusts overseas

ous treatment of capital gains liabilities for people who work abroad for a year or more. Accountants report that the Revenue is paying closer attention to the employment claims of people who make substantial tax-free disposals when they are abroad.

In the consultative document, it was pointed out under the heading "opportunity for exploitation" that the long-standing practice for income tax and capital gains tax "had the unfortunate result of employment being created abroad with a view to realising gains free of UK capital gains tax shortly after departure. The individual may then return to the United Kingdom a year later, and remain here for the rest of his life."

America has already declared its intention to impose capital gains tax on people who buy and sell property

when non-resident. This could provide a further impetus for the British government to impose a similar tax treatment and to negotiate a reciprocal agreement on capital gains tax as part of the double tax treaty.

At KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountant, Loughlin Hickey said he expected that a consultative document on trusts would be issued on Budget day and that measures would be introduced immediately to prevent anyone sheltering any future gains from tax within offshore trusts.

"There is an awareness among those who could benefit from such trusts that there could be a change and there will be a number of trusts set up before the Budget," Mr Hickey said.

"Those who have set up

existing trusts but not realised accrued gains may choose to bed and breakfast ahead of the Budget." By selling and buying back the assets, a higher base price for future capital gains tax bills is established.

Lesley Ferrar, from the same firm, said the Inland Revenue already pursued people who left Britain and then made substantial disposals. "If someone sets up a job abroad for the purpose of realising gains whilst they are out of the country then the Inland Revenue can attack them," she said.

Accountants hope there will be a relaxation of the rules applying to people who retain a property in Britain when they move abroad. They can currently become liable to tax if they keep a property that is available to them when they return for a few days.

## Savers confused by tax reforms

By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

SAVERS are still confused about the abolition of composite rate tax (CRT) next month, despite a multi-million pound television advertising campaign and leaflets being delivered to every household in Britain.

The tax, which is deducted from interest by banks and building societies, is to be replaced by basic rate tax. This will allow 15 million savers who are non-taxpayers to have their interest paid without deduction of tax or to claim back tax deducted. To qualify for gross-paid interest, they must fill in form R85 to register as non-taxpayers.

This week, the Inland Revenue published a list of the most frequent questions about the tax changes together with the answers.

One query is whether a saver can register one account for gross interest and pay tax on other accounts. The answer is no. Only those people who do not expect to be liable to income tax can register for gross interest.

Leaflet IR111, which explains how to get a refund of overpaid tax, will be in all tax offices and tax enquiry centres from April 2.

Many savers are unsure how much income they can have and still register for interest with no tax deducted. This is not yet known for certain as the personal allowances for 1991-2 will not be announced until the Budget on March 19. As guidance, the Revenue is using this year's allowances.

Complex seem to get the full benefit of the new regime on their joint savings accounts want to know if a non-taxpayer can register for gross interest on an account shared with a taxpayer. The Inland Revenue will permit interest to be paid in this way but some banks and building societies will not split interest.

The rules concerning children's accounts are confusing and vary according to who operates the account and where the money came from. Children have a single person's tax allowance. This can be used to set against interest on their savings. However, money from parents is treated differently. A child can receive up to £100 a year in interest and other investment income on money given by each parent and get gross interest.

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## Tribunal backs ban on credit by address

By LIZ DOLAN

THOUSANDS of credit applicants who have been unfairly refused credit may be able to have their creditworthiness reassessed following a ruling by the Data Protection Tribunal.

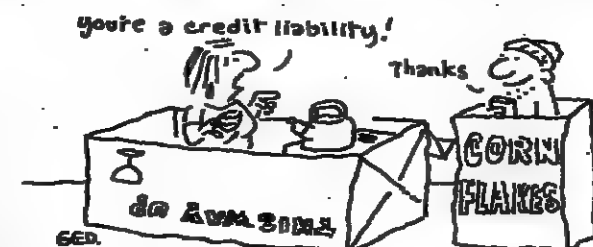
The tribunal has turned down an appeal by CCN Systems, one of Britain's largest credit reference agencies, against a decision by Eric Howe, the Data Protection Registrar, on credit search procedures that take into account the histories of past and present occupants of the same address.

Mr Howe ruled last August that such methods should be banned because they can give rise to decisions that may be both inequitable and are ar-

rived at through an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

At the moment, all four of the country's major credit reference agencies operate address based credit scoring systems. People assessed by having credit applications turned down because of the behaviour of unrelated lodgers, flatmates and even residents of other flats in their block. Others have been turned down because of the credit histories of people who moved out long before the credit applicant took up residence.

CCN will still be allowed to use "third party information", as it is known by the industry,



for another two years because the tribunal has given the agency until January 1, 1993, to set up an alternative rating system. The tribunal also allowed the agency to continue taking into account information about members of the family living at the same address.

This decision goes some way to satisfying demands from bodies such as banks,

building societies and retail organisations that have argued strongly for the present system both on grounds of cost and experience.

"If a person who lived in a house had two or three county court judgements against them, it is statistically more likely that people who move in after them will have a similar history," argues Elizabeth Stanton of the Retail

Credit Group, a body that speaks for most of the leading high street chains.

The other three major credit reference agencies, all of which are still technically awaiting judgement on similar appeals against the Data Protection Registrar's original ruling, are thought likely to give in gracefully.

The National Consumer Council and the Consumers' Association have both welcomed the tribunal's ruling, even though it stopped short of a complete ban on the use of third party information.

"We think the whole idea goes against natural justice," said a spokesman for the NCC. "We have always opposed it in every instance except where a married person

has neither income nor credit history. We consider that in those circumstances it would be reasonable to take into account the situation of the legal spouse - but even then only with the consent of both parties."

The Consumers' Association said that, while it appreciated the value of using third party information in assessing creditworthiness, the importance of individual privacy must override all other considerations, including those of cost.

"If it means that banks and building societies have to develop more expensive credit scoring systems, then that is what will have to happen," said Jean Eaglesham, a senior researcher.





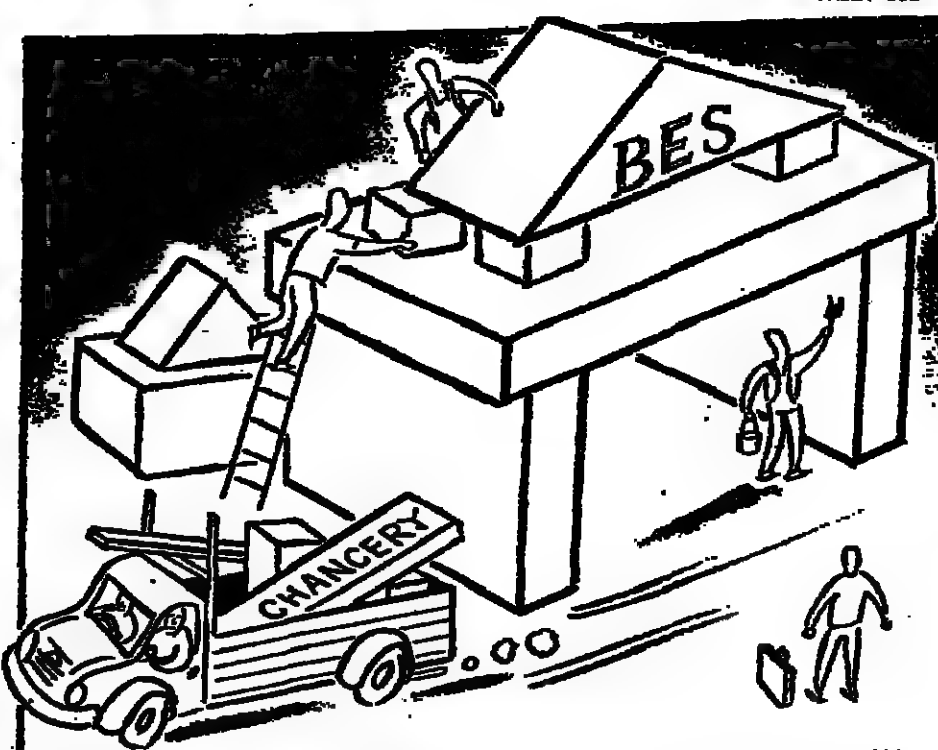


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<b>BANKS</b>				
Starling 0500 964642	12.75	£75K+	90	After 1% discount for first year
<b>OTHER (FINANCE HOUSE)</b>				
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Source: compiled by Martin Gaskin Ltd. Telephone 0790 860020

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## By BARBARA ELLIS

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## Hidden managers lower standards in banks

From Cllr Robin N. Bunnage  
Sir, I must back up the comments of P.B. Bryan (Weekend Money Letters, February 23), as I hear two or three complaints every week of our banking system, varying from hidden charges applied, it seems, on the whim of the bank with no prior warnings, to serious errors of unwarranted cash card gobbling, failure to service requests and debiting wrong accounts.

This lowering of bank standards is I feel, due to two factors. Firstly, the habit of managers locking themselves away behind steel doors instead of being available to their clients and being replaced by "your personal banker" who has to refer all questions to someone else. A complete waste of time.

Secondly, the vast increase in the numbers employed at even the smallest branch, such that the customer, instead of having one contact has to go via many depending on his needs. I would judge the public annoyance would easily give Labour the next election if they would promise to nationalise the banks and retrain all managers in the Citizens Advice Bureau to learn what a customer is, and how to help.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN N. BUNNAGE,  
3 St Andrews Close,  
Llantwit Fardre,  
Pontypidd, Mid Glamorgan.



## Saving tax on Peps is pointless if investment returns are poor

From Mr Mark Dampier  
Sir, I have over the last few months noticed a considerable amount of correspondence on personal equity plans (Peps), mostly adverse, and as an independent broker I felt I should try and redress the balance.

Perhaps the major problem relates more to the words "tax-free" than anything else. In this country this phrase seems to convey that an investment product must be good whatever your own circumstances. I believe this blinds people to the underlying investment. Remember there is no point in trying to save tax if the investment produces a poor return. To this end you should consider your own investment philosophy before buying a Pep. For example, how many people buy direct equities, the answer very few; but how many of those people then go and buy a full Pep, which contains anything from one to six direct holdings. If they intend to buy a full Pep each year and build up an equity portfolio then this is not unreasonable. But many purchases are one-offs; if so your risk has therefore increased considerably. How many had Polly Peck in their portfolio last year? If one share within a tiny portfolio goes bust, or falls badly, then it drags down the whole Pep, and it can be difficult to turn this around.

The majority of people would be far better to concentrate on unit and investment trusts only. You may only be able to invest half the Pep allowance, but you will then be in a vehicle that will give you a much broader spread. I would usually recommend a UK income fund, because of the benefits of a tax-free rising income over the longer term.

The costs of buying a unit or investment trust Pep is normally no more than buying them without the Pep. So if you have decided to buy a UK income fund and you have not used your Pep allowance, then it makes a great deal of sense to buy it under the Pep. But think carefully about adding direct holdings to it.

Yours faithfully,  
MARK DAMPIER,  
Investment Director,  
Whitechurch Securities Ltd,  
36 Westbury Lane,  
Bristol,  
Avon.

months trying to convince Access that I am not going to foot the bill for their errors. Their most recent letter threatened to withdraw my credit card. How, I wonder, do they plan to do that when I returned it to them in pieces last January?

Yours faithfully,  
SANDRA TRACEY,  
88 Regent Street,  
Watford,  
Hertfordshire.

● Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns, and independent professional advice should be sought.

**Access charge**  
From Miss Sandra Tracey  
Sir, Although it might have been wiser had Mr Campbell (Weekend Money, February 16) cancelled his original electricity direct debit with the company, doing so does not unfortunately ensure Access will not try to charge for it.

I used to pay a club subscription by Access direct debit until I cancelled it with the club 12 months ago. Unfortunately, they failed to note my instruction and requested payment from Access last October. Access paid them — despite the fact that I had cancelled my card eight months previously!

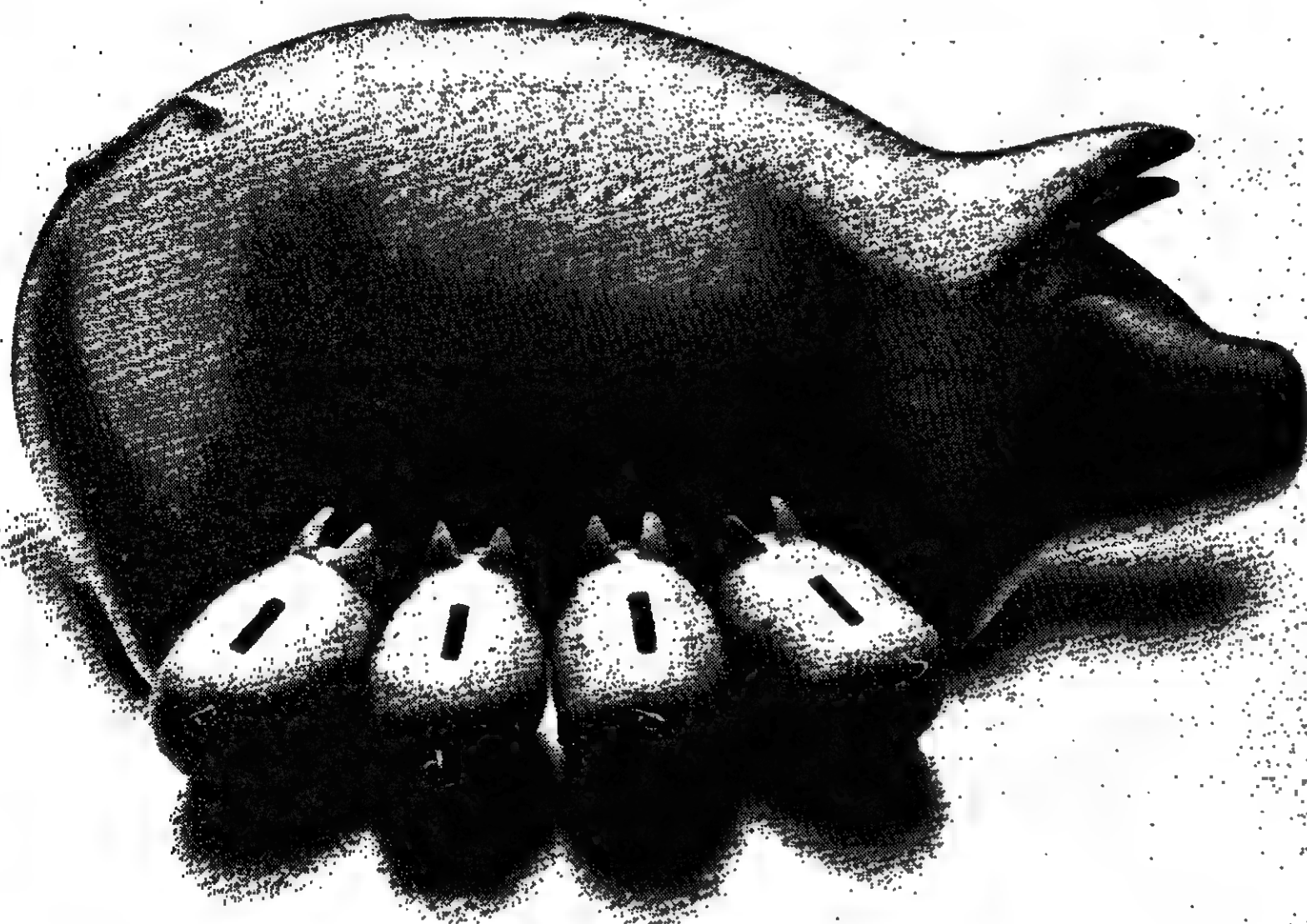
I have spent the last four

## Small change

From S.E. Dillon  
Sir, Alas Mrs Harrison (Weekend Money Letters, February 16) is incorrect in saying "any building society is far more encouraging to small savers" than the National Savings Bank. My son was told at our local branch of the Alliance & Leicester not to bring in heaps of change on Saturday mornings as they are "very busy". The branch was otherwise devoid of customers when he was told this!

On earlier visits the cashier's faces had indicated how irritating little boys with a pound or two in small change can be to "busy" building society staff.

Yours faithfully,  
S.E. DILLON,  
17 Stapehall Road,  
Monkspath, Solihull.



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مكتبة ابن النجاشي



Investors await their fate

## Compensation scheme may not be backdated

By SARA MCCONNELL

INVESTORS who have collectively lost millions of pounds to fraudulent financial advisers may not be covered if the High Court decides that the industry's investor compensation scheme (ICS) does not cover losses before its introduction in August 1988.

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) and the compensation scheme was this week planning the first step towards instituting court proceedings to decide on a definite interpretation of the rules governing payouts under the scheme. They are going to take out a construction summons in the Chancery division of the High Court.

This move follows a claim by the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) that the compensation scheme, which pays out the first £48,000 of any claim, should only pay investors who lost money since the scheme started.

A court hearing is likely to take place in June and 40 investors with claims dating to March last year already face temporary suspension of their payments until the legal position is clear. If the court rules that claims cannot be retrospective, ICS will have to establish how much of each loss was sustained before the compensation scheme started and scale down payments.

Fimbra and SIB said that the total amount of payouts affected this year will probably add up to more than £9 million. Fimbra members paid £3.4 million last year to cover compensation to investors in the two years since the start of the scheme. Most of these payments would also be in question if the court ruled that the compensation scheme did not cover any investments made before August 1988.

This year's levy for Fimbra members to cover investor losses has not yet been set but is expected to be between £9 and £12 million. This includes cover for loss of between £7 and £9 million from Dunsdale Securities, financial advisers, declared in default by ICS last summer. Several other cases are also pending. Fimbra estimated that only about £2 million would have been invested after August 1988 and would work retrospectively.



Anxious to pay: Michelle Williams, adviser to ICS

covered by the compensation scheme.

Michelle Williams, legal adviser to ICS said: "ICS has to go through every investor claim and some investors may have part of their claim held up. We are anxious to get on and pay and if investors put money in pre and post the August 1988 date, only funds put in before this date would be covered by the court ruling."

The Consumer's Association is concerned that while regulatory bodies wrangle about who should pay, investors are being kept waiting.

Jean Eaglesham, senior researcher at the Consumer's Association, said: "We are not going to dictate who picks up the tab, whether it is SIB or the DTI, but it is essential that people get paid and without undue delay."

"It is worrying that a problem of this magnitude should only just be emerging. The wording of the rules seems to be ambiguous. Our understanding was that it would work retrospectively."

Comment, page 30

## SIB plans to drop guide for buyers

By JILL INSLEY

THE Securities and Investments Board (SIB) is proposing to scrap a buyers' guide to financial advisers, even though many investors rely on the guide to distinguish between independent advisers, tied agents and direct salesmen.

The status of an adviser is set out in a separate buyers' guide that is handed to the client to explain the difference between tied and independent salespeople.

Instead, SIB suggests that the status of a tied agent or direct salesman should be declared in the product pamphlet handed to the client.

The guide is the only piece of literature given to potential investors that explains the difference between an independent adviser, who advises on the full market, and a tied or direct salesman, who is restricted to the products of just one company.

The SIB working party's proposals are to be published in early March and the aim is to simplify the information given by insurance and investment companies' potential customers. Jane Ross, who is a member of the SIB working party and registrar of the Insurance Brokers Registration Council, says there is still time for change. She said: "We have talked about the buyers guide, but it's still up for discussion."

The working party argues that it is impossible to ensure that financial advisers give the buyers guide to clients. Concern has grown that tied agents and direct salesmen have failed to distribute the guide. A recent *Which?* survey supports these fears. Of 32 advisers questioned, only ten provided the guide to clients. Eight of those ten were independent financial advisers. However, the association has criticised proposals that the guide should be dropped altogether.

Jean Eaglesham, senior researcher for the Consumer's Association, says declarations of status in product details would mean status clarification would be handed to the client too late in the interview to be of any help.

Independent financial advisers are also worried that scrapping the guide may lead to confusion about the status of some advisers.

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## SPORT

## Crown awaits England

From DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

## SUMMARY

## Testing times



IF AN eventful first day is an indication of the course the series is to follow, West Indies face quite a challenge from Australia over five Test matches in the Caribbean. Two batsmen were forced to retire hurt and wickets fell as Craig McDermott, above, led the Australian bowling on the opening day of the first Test in Kingston, Jamaica, yesterday. Alan Lee reports from Sabina Park on the start of a series which the Australians hope will herald a change in the balance of power in world cricket. Page 41

## COMPETITION

## Grand chance

THE Seagram Grand National is one of the best events in the British sporting calendar. Today, readers have a chance to win a luxury day out with a companion at Aintree next month. Page 38

## ATHLETICS

## Sprint finish

BRITISH sprinters have their minds on beating American opposition and setting a world record in Glasgow tomorrow. David Powell looks forward to the indoor international at the Kelvin Hall, where Linford Christie and John Regis head the home challenge. Page 41

## COLUMN

## Screen test



WHAT have Cherie Lunghi, above, and Kenny Dalglish in common? The answer is the stress of football management. Laura Thompson draws a parallel between Lunghi, who plays Gabriella Benson in *The Manageress*, and the former Liverpool manager. Page 37

## HOCKEY

## False start

ENGLAND'S preparations for the European Cup suffered a setback yesterday when they were beaten by Wales in the opening match in the home countries women's international tournament at Durham. Helen Jones scored the only goal. Scotland beat Ireland 2-1 in the other match. Page 37

## GOLF

## In the clear



WHEN Michael McLean won the Portuguese Open last year, it allowed him to gloss over the prospect of avoiding the European Tour qualifying school after two hard winters. Mitchell Platt finds him on course for success again after two rounds of the Mediterranean Open in Nice. Page 38

## RACING

## Way to go

PETER Scudamore may switch to Sordio for the Champion Hurdle. Page 38

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THE problems England have encountered on the way to the wearing of a triple crown — let alone achieving a grand slam — need no further illustration than a look at the statistics. Since the international rugby union championship, in its accepted form, began in 1883, England have been crowned 15 times, and only four times during the post-war period. Ireland, their hosts in the Digital international at Lansdowne Road today, can equal that latter record, which says a great deal about the respective use of resources. There can be no room for complacency in the English camp, therefore, no overlooking a fervent Irish team, because England's view is on the higher ground of a potential winner-takes-all contest with France in a fortnight's time.

"We are aware of complacency, having beaten Ireland four times in succession," Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, said, "but we hope to have the attitude right. Ireland will be bursting with enthusiasm and always play that much better against England."

The greatest danger to England today is the high-risk rugby that Ireland must hope to play. It is a curious anomaly: Ireland, traditionally the country of sound and fury and tumultuous forwards, England that of the calm and measured tread best exemplified by some classical midfield players of a generation and more ago. But Ireland enter the fray wanting to use their backs, whereas England will want to dominate up front and deny them possession.

To offer effective back play, however, Ireland depend on their pack to take them forward to give Rob Saunders and Brian Smith that precious commodity, room. They achieved as much during their last game at Lansdowne Road, against France last month, holding their ground at the scrums and doing far better at the lineout than even they had anticipated. Now, their lineout has been reinforced by Neil Francis, whose detractors are still waiting to see him offer a full 80 minutes of genuine international rugby, but whose athleticism is not in doubt.

It is a critical area of the game, where England were so secure against Scotland. It is there that Ireland will seek to offer a multitude of variations, using Brian Robinson

and Philip Matthews in different roles; but what worked against an inexperienced, unconfident Welsh side should have less impact on the English forwards — Dooley in his fortieth game, Winterbottom in his 41st, Richards in his 24th.

Experience is not Ireland's greatest commodity: so much depends on Matthews among the forwards, on Smith and Mullin in the backs. Crossan, with 35 caps, has as many games to his credit as Mullin, but his place on the wing — where he overtakes Trevor Ringland's record for the position — makes him more peripheral to the decision-making process. If Saunders and Smith have their supply reduced at source, then the offensive capabilities of the men further out will be less relevant.

But Ireland do have a boundless well of enthusiasm, a side whipped up by Ciaran Fitzgerald, old enough to know better but young enough not to care. "The young guys in the backs have offered us extra dimensions — and there's a lot of genuine speed outside me which is a real asset," Smith said. "It may be a very young, new-look side and we will go in very much as underdogs, but we will be very competitive and we hope to make it difficult for England."

The risks will not weigh them down as they have appeared to do England this five national season, to the vexation of many critics. England have found a formula which suits them, in their particular mental state, and they will not rush to depart from it however talented they believe their back division — incautiously labelled the best in Europe last season, heedless of the claims of some useful Frenchmen — to be.

Yet this is the day when they must develop a broader game, thinking not so much of the matches to be won this season but those to come. Will Carling, the captain, comparing the attitude of his team with that which preceded the Welsh and Scottish games, said: "This is an emotional occasion too because a triple crown is on offer, but it's a big game in a huge year." That huge year will require England to use all their talents with which they have been judicious in the extreme.

Stiff task for Wales, page 40

## Sponsors come to World Cup's aid

DUBLIN RUGBY World Cup Ltd is due to announce, over the next month, a rolling series of sponsors who will be involved in the tournament in Britain, Ireland and France this autumn (David Hands writes). Such announcements, covering main sponsors and official suppliers, will do much to allay fears that the event will be less successful, financially, than was originally hoped.

The only main sponsor agreed so far is the food company, H. J. Heinz UK, who revealed details here yesterday of the £3 million programme which will back up their initial fee, believed to be around £1 million. The

company will also donate a fair play award to the team incurring fewest penalties during the month-long competition, which begins on October 3.

"We hope this award will help to reinforce the values that we hold to be so important in rugby and will play its part in building the right image for the game," Tony O'Reilly, the chairman of Heinz, said.

O'Reilly, the former Ireland and British Isles wing, speaking at Old Belvedere — one of the clubs for whom he played during a distinguished career — added: "We want to foster rugby's development wherever possible in the world."



Passing time: Hodgkinson, the England full back, in training in Dublin yesterday

## TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSOWNE ROAD

Ireland			England		
J E Staples	15	Full back	S D Hodgkinson	15	(Nottingham)
S P Geoghegan	14	Right wing	N J Heslop	14	(Oxford)
B J Mullin	13	Right centre	W D C Carling	13	(Harrow)
D M Currie	12	Left centre	J C Guscott	12	(Harrow)
K D Crossan	11	Left wing	R Underwood	11	(Leicester)
B A Smith	10	Stand off	C R Andrew	10	(Worcester)
R Saunders	9	Scrum half	R J Hill	9	(Leeds)
J J Fitzgerald	1	Prop	J Leonard	1	(Leeds)
S J Smith	2	Hooker	B C Moore	2	(Leeds)
D C Fitzgerald	3	Prop	J A Probyn	3	(Leeds)
P M Matthews	6	Flanker	M C Toggue	6	(Leeds)
B J Rigney	4	Lock	P J Ackford	4	(Leeds)
N P Francis	5	Lock	W A Dooley	5	(Leeds)
G F Hamilton	7	Flanker	P J Winterbottom	7	(Leeds)
B F Robinson	8	No 8	D Richards	8	(Leeds)

REPLACEMENTS: 15 K J Murphy (Connacht), 17 V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College), 18 A C Rolland (Blackrock College), 19 M P Bennett (Lansdowne), 20 G F Hough (Wanderers), 21 T J Kingston (Dublin)

## Five nations' table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
France	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
Scotland	2	1	1	0	0	0	3
Ireland	2	1	1	0	0	0	3
Wales	2	0	1	1	0	0	1

## Other details

● England have won 69 games in a series which started in 1875. Ireland have won 36 of the 100 games played and the last of the eight draws was in 1958.

● Ireland's last victory was in 1987, also a World Cup year, when they won 17-0. Their biggest winning margin was 22-0 in 1947, in Dublin, while England's best was the 35-5 win at Twickenham in 1988.

● No player has scored more in a single match than Ollie Campbell's 21 points in 1955 in a 22-0 Irish win. Alan Old killed 17 points at Twickenham in 1974, but England still lost 26-21.

● Of the present Irish team, Keith Crossan, Brendan Mullin and Phil Matthews have played all three against England. Des Fitzgerald five times, Steve Smith three and Neil Francis once. Of England's team, Simon Hodgkinson, Jeremy Guscott, Nigel Heslop and Jason Leonard are the only ones who have not played at Lansdowne Road.

## Jumpers still looking for a launch pad

BRITISH ski jumping goes from strength to strength. Salutations to James Lambert, the British ski jumper who wins things. Lambert, an old friend of this column, won a combined Nordic event last year, now, he has won a pure jumping competition, finishing equal first at the recent Buchenberg championships in Germany. He went on to gain a second place in the combined event at Schwabacher. In the meantime, the British Ski Federation (BSF) continues in its unending efforts to build an artificial ski jump in Britain. There is a possibility of two sites in Teesdale — one on a disused open-cast coal mine and a further possibility on a dead slagheap.

There is more sporting good sense in the idea than meets the eye. The British efforts in Alpine skiing have never set the world on fire. This is mainly because it is hard for a Brit downhill skier to get much practice in Britain. The advantage of ski jumping is that it can be done properly on an artificial slope. Tim Asburner, of the BSF, a man who one could call the father of British ski jumping, asks rhetorically why has the country "never provided for the one form of skiing which can be precisely simulated in this country, and which was the creation of our Viking forefathers?"

## SIMON BARNES ON SATURDAY

## Cycling celebrities

THIS column, as ever green in tooth and claw, sends greetings to Fatima Whitbread and Bill Beaumont. This unlikely sounding couple will be taking part, along with other non-sporting celebs, in an event called "Bike to the Future" in aid of Friends of the Earth on May 25. It is a mass cycle ride from London to Hever Castle in Kent, covering 35 miles.

## Froggy fits the bill

Melbourne's city square is called City Square. Its arts centre is called The Arts Centre. Its tennis centre is called The Tennis Centre. Now, the city is thrumming with tensions — what will they call the new stand recently completed at the MCC, or Melbourne Cricket Ground? It is just possible that the MCC (Melbourne Cricket Club) could go raving mad and call the stand after a cricketer. Perhaps, the Bill Woodfull Stand to match the stand named after his batting partner, Bill Woodfull. Richie Benaud suggested a Lindsay Hassett Stand.

Others prefer the idea of honouring a politician or player of Melbourne's other game, Australian No Rules Football. Me, I think it should be called after Alan "Froggy" Thomson, who played four Test matches against England in 1970-1, when he was brought in as the answer to John Snow. He wasn't. He took 12 wickets at 54.5. He was called Froggy because of his chaotic, wardrobe-going-downhill bowling action. I propose the MCC to call this the Froggy Thomson Stand.

## Gold for the bold

More lunacy in the snow. Congratulations (I suppose) to Bob Baker, who won the Iditarod Human Powered Ultramarathon Event held in Alaska recently. The idea was to complete a 200-mile course, and you could choose your weapon — mountain bike, cross-country skis or snow shoes. You could also use a combination of all three. Baker, the overall winner, chose skis, completed the course in 28hr 40min and was given the distinctly interesting prize of five ounces of gold. The leading three in each category all finished in the money. Probably the worst time of all was suffered by the lone Brit, a mountain biker called Simon Gibson. Because of the soft snow, he had to push the bike most of the way and,

after camping overnight, he withdrew with an injured ankle. He had covered 60 miles: every one of them, no doubt, Dante-esque.

● Jesus Gil, the president of Atlético Madrid, is another old friend of this column. He has recently been singing what he no doubt sincerely believes are the praises of his manager, the well-travelled Yugoslav, Tomislav Ivic. "Even when he is making love," Gil declares, "all he is thinking of is Atlético Madrid." Gil, of course, was banned until 1994 by UEFA, European football's governing body, after declaring that a referee who had incurred his wrath had been "tribed with a blue-eyed Florentine boy."

## Going underground

The Norwegian town of Gjøvik has never had a global reputation for megalomania, but that is changing fast. They plan to build an ice hockey stadium which will last half a million years, act as a shelter from nuclear attack and will require the dynamiting of 150,000 tonnes of rock. It will be constructed underground and, if the designers have their way, will be ready for the winter Olympics of 1994. "An underground hall can put us on the map," Hans Hagene, Olympic co-ordinator for Gjøvik, said. "If the Rolling Stones ever break up, it would be the ideal place for a farewell concert."

## Toshack now favourite for Liverpool job

By IAN ROSS

LIVERPOOL will seek to appoint John Toshack as their new manager next week. His position as favourite to succeed Kenny Dalglish, who resigned nine days ago, was strengthened yesterday when Alan Hansen, the Liverpool captain, announced his retirement from professional football.

Hansen, aged 35, who had been expected to be interviewed about the vacant post, said that he had no interest in pursuing a career in either coaching or management.

Toshack, the former manager of Real Madrid, was a prominent figure in the successful Liverpool side of the 1970s. He is working as a consultant at Real Sociedad, but recently signed a five-year contract and will become first-team coach from July 1.

Sociated are fully aware of Liverpool's interest and have already indicated they will look for compensation of around £1.5 million if Toshack was to return to English football.

Publicly, at least, Real are remaining steadfast. Iñaki Otegui, their secretary, denied that Liverpool had even contacted them. "They have no reason to do so," he said. "John has signed a five-year contract. We expect him to honour it."

If the cost of securing Toshack proves to be too prohibitive, Liverpool will almost certainly appoint Ronnie Moran, the chief coach at

Anfield who was made caretaker-manager following Dalglish's unexpected departure.

Although Hansen's retirement from playing because of persistent problems with his right knee is no great surprise, his decision to completely sever his links with football most certainly is.

"I have never had any aspirations to stay in football and I shall not go back on this decision," he said. "I made up my mind three weeks ago, but the chairman and I thought it better to end the speculation now rather than have me leave after a new manager is appointed. That may have looked like a case of sour grapes."

Hansen was signed from Partick Thistle by Bob Paisley for £100,000 in April 1977 and made 620 senior appearances for Liverpool. He won eight championship medals, three European Cup medals, three in the League Cup and two in the FA Cup. He made 26 appearances for Scotland.

"He has had 14 wonderfully successful years at this club and he will be missed," Noel White, the Liverpool chairman, said. "It was possible that he would have been invited to remain on our staff had he indicated such a desire."

● Johan Cruyff, the Barcelona coach, who underwent heart surgery two days ago, was transferred from intensive care yesterday.

## Top spot may not save Robson's job

By CLIVE WHITE

PSV Eindhoven may revert to their first choice as coach should Bobby Robson, the former England manager, deviate only slightly from the demands for excellence placed on him by the Dutch club.

PSV are top of the league and on Wednesday qualified for the semi-finals of the Dutch Cup, yet it is common knowledge that they are not satisfied with Robson's performance as coach and wish to appoint Dick Advocaat, the assistant to Rinus Michels, the national team coach.

The players and Hans Dorjee, the assistant coach, have expressed their disapproval of Robson, describing him as too much of a gentleman and tactically un-

qualified to coach in The Netherlands. Arnold Muhren, who played for Robson at Ipswich, is among his critics.

The club's early elimination from the Cup Winners' Cup by Montpellier has much to do with PSV's dissatisfaction. It is estimated that the defeat cost the club, at the very least, 1 million guilders (about £300,000). When Robson agreed to sign a lucrative two-year contract to join the Dutch club last May — at a time when he was still England's team manager — he was second choice for the position.

Robson, however, is standing firm. "I respect contracts," he said. "In 21 years, I have only ever had two and respected them both."

## THE SUNDAY TIMES

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